THE

WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3. 1776.

RETROSPECTIVE VIEW *of* AFFAIRS *relating to the* American *Colonies*. [P. 5.]

DURING this war of the petitions, one had been ſent from Birmingham and preſented, intitled, a petition from the inhabitants of that town and neighbourhood, in which they ſet forth, that any relaxation in the execution of the laws, reſpecting the colonies, would greatly injure the commerce of Birmingham; and ſtrongly urging, that the houſe would exert its utmoſt endeavours to ſupport the authority of the laws. No other petition or addreſs had then appeared in favour of ſtrong meaſures againſt America; and it was ſuſpected, that this had been procured by indirect practices, as moſt of thoſe who had ſigned the paper were perſons no ways concerned in the ſtaple manufactures of the place; at leaſt, ſuch as were did not export any conſiderable quantity to America. Another petition, to a contrary effect, was ſigned and preſented by thoſe who dealt moſt largely in that branch. A leading gentleman in the minority obſerved, that the miniſtry had frequently reproached the oppoſition with unfair methods in procuring theſe petitions; that now, one place having ſpoken ſuch different languages, they had an opportunity of diſcovering the truth of that matter, and of effectually diſcouraging ſuch matters for the future: he therefore moved, that it ſhould be an inſtruction to the committee, to inquire into the manner of procuring and ſigning both petitions; and alſo, how far the perſons, ſeverally ſigning them, are concerned in the trade to North-America. The motion, as uſual, was over-ruled.

In this manner the parties tried their ſeveral forces in parliament and in the nation, previous to the bringing in the grand meaſure, on which the miniſtry reſted their hope of finally breaking the ſpirit which gave them ſo much trouble in America. It was evident, that their failure in their former plans had not in the leaſt abated the readineſs ſhewn by both houſes of parliament to adopt any others which adminiſtration ſhould propoſe; and it was confidently believed and aſſerted, that when the merchants and manufacturers were deprived of all hopes of preventing the operation of force, it would then become their intereſt to give all poſſible effect to it. They would thus become, by degrees, a prin-

cipal support of that cause, which they now so eagerly opposed. When once every thing was made to depend on war, nothing but the success of that war could give the trading body any hopes of recovering their debts and renewing their commerce; therefore, not only this opinion, of the efficacy of such a mode of proceeding in America, but the hopes of compelling a great body at home to concurrence, made the ministers more and more resolved to go through, and compleat the coercive plan they had begun with.

The noble earl (Chatham), who had made a motion in the house of lords for the recall of the troops from Boston, not discouraged at the great majority by which his motion was rejected, still persevered in the prosecution of that conciliatory scheme with America, which he then in part announced, and to which that motion was only introductory. He accordingly brought into that house [Feb. 1.] the outlines of a bill, which he hoped would answer that salutary purpose, under the title of "A provisional act for settling the troubles in America, and for asserting the supreme legislative authority and superintending power of Great Britain over the colonies." [Vol. xxvii. P. 241.]

He intreated the assistance of the house to digest the crude materials, which, thrown together in the nature of a bill, he now presumed to lay before them; to bring and reduce the whole to that form, which was suited to the dignity and importance of the subject, and to the great ends to which it was ultimately directed. He called on them to exercise their candour, and deprecated the effects of party or prejudice; of factious spleen, or a blind predilection. He declared himself to be actuated by no narrow principle, or personal consideration whatever; and said, that though the proposed bill might be looked upon as a bill of concession, it was impossible but to confess, at the same time, that it was a bill of assertion.

This bill caused a great variety of discussions within and without doors. The ministry found it a proposition of reconciliation by concession, which was cause sufficient (independently of the obnoxious quarter from whence it came) to induce them to reject it; their plan being at that time, though a little varied afterwards, to shew a firm resolution not to give way, in any instance, whilst the opposition in America continued. Others said, that the bill contained a multiplicity of matter. Many of its parts were liable to, and seemed to require much separate discussion: they were so numerous, and so various in their nature, that the aggregate mass appeared too great to be comprised in one draught.

The noble lord, at the head of the American department, behaved with great moderation. He said, that the bill took in such a variety of matter, that it was impossible to pronounce any immediate opinion concerning its propriety; and that as its noble author did not seem to press the house to any immediate decision, but appeared rather desirous that it should be maturely and fully considered, he supposed it would be agreeable to him, and he would have no objection to receive it upon that condition, that it should lie upon the table till the American papers were first taken into consideration.

Whether respect for the framer of the bill, or whatever the motives were that induced this concession, they had no effect on the other lords in administration, who opposed it with so much heat, as to forget that attention which its author, and the importance of the subject, seemed to demand. It is unusual in parliament to reject, on the first proposition, any bill for an object allowed to be necessary; and promising, however faintly or rudely, any plan for obtaining the end proposed. But the proceeding on this occasion was different. They condemned, without reserve, the bill in the whole, and in all its parts; and censured the mode of bringing it in, as irregular, unparliamentary, and unprecedented.

The noble framer defended himself and his bill from the numerous attacks which were made on both, with great spirit and vigour. The indignity which was offered seemed to renew all the fire of youth; and he retorted the sarcasms, which were levelled upon him from different quarters, with a most pointed severity. If he was charged with hurrying this business in an unusual and irregular manner into parliament, he placed it to the critical necessity of the times; to the wretched inability and incapacity of the ministers, who, though they declared all America to be in rebellion, had not, at this late season, a plan to propose, or a system to pursue, for the adjustment of

public affairs; that under ſuch circumſtances of emergency on one ſide, when perhaps a ſingle day might determine the fate of this great empire; and ſuch a ſhameful negligence, inattention, and want of ability on the other, no alternative remained, but either to abandon the intereſts of his country, and relinquiſh his duty, or to propoſe ſuch meaſures as ſeemed the moſt capable of reſtoring peace and quiet. He then called upon the ſervants of the crown to declare, whether they had any plan, however deficient, to lay before the houſe? And that if they had, he would ſet them an example of candour which they by no means deſerved, by inſtantly withdrawing the preſent bill.

This debate of courſe called up the whole of the American affairs, which accordingly underwent much diſcuſſion.—After a long and moſt pointed debate, the bill was rejected by a majority of 61 to 32; not being even allowed to lie upon the table. Upon this queſtion his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland voted in the minority.

The day after this debate, a petition was preſented to the houſe of commons, from the planters of the ſugar colonies reſiding in Great Britain, and the merchants of London trading to thoſe colonies. In this petition they ſet forth, how exceedingly they were alarmed at the aſſociation and agreement entered into by the continental congreſs, in conſequence of which all trade between North-America and the Weſt Indies was to ceaſe at a given day, unleſs the acts of parliament therein-ſpecified were repealed by that time. They ſtated, that the Britiſh property in the Weſt India iſlands amounted to upwards of thirty millions ſterling; that a further property of many millions was employed in the commerce created by the ſaid iſlands; a commerce comprehending Africa, the Eaſt Indies and Europe; and that the whole profits and produce of thoſe capitals ultimately center in Great Britain, and add to the national wealth, while the navigation neceſſary to all its branches eſtabliſhes a ſtrength which wealth can neither purchaſe nor balance.

They ſhewed, that the ſugar plantations in the Weſt Indies are ſubject to a greater variety of contingencies than any other ſpecies of property, from their neceſſary dependence on external ſupport; that therefore, ſhould any interruption happen in the general ſyſtem of their commerce, the great national ſtock, thus veſted and employed, muſt become precarious and unprofitable; and that the profits ariſing from the preſent ſtate of thoſe iſlands, and what are likely to ariſe from their future improvement, in a great meaſure depend on a free and reciprocal intercourſe between them and the ſeveral provinces of North America, from whence they are furniſhed with proviſions and other ſupplies, abſolutely neceſſary for their ſupport, and the maintenance of their plantations.

They then proceed to ſhew, that they could not be ſupplied from any other markets, and in any degree proportionate to their wants, with thoſe articles of indiſpenſible neceſſity, which they now derive from the middle colonies of North-America; and that if the agreement and aſſociation of the congreſs take full effect, which they firmly believe will happen, unleſs the former harmony which ſubſiſted between this kingdom and the American colonies, to the infinite advantage of both, be reſtored, the iſlands will be reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs. This petition, like all the former upon the ſame ſubject, was referred to the eſtabliſhed petition-committee.

The time was at length arrived, when the miniſter thought proper to open his deſigns with reſpect to America. On the day, upon which the Weſt India petition had been preſented, he in a long ſpeech recapitulated the information contained in thoſe American papers which had been referred to the committee [*See, for this debate in full*, Vol. xxvii. P. 219.].

The gentlemen of the minority contended, that it was a matter of little importance, whether the diſturbances which prevailed in all the colonies, might be termed in legal acceptation rebellions or not. The queſtion before the houſe was, whether it was prudent for parliament, and at that time, to *declare* them ſo. For if parliament ſhould find it neceſſary, in the courſe of events, to reconcile by any conceſſion, treaty with and conceſſion to rebels would be highly diſhonourable to parliament. If a treaty ſhould not take place, their arms would never be the more powerful for diſtinguiſhing the war by the name of a rebellion. That it would render many in America, if not all, quite deſperate; and make them think themſelves contending for their lives, properties, and

families, as well as for their political liberty.

On the other ſide, the crown lawyers and miniſterial debaters inſiſted, that ſuch Americans as came within certain deſcriptions had been guilty of certain acts, and who ſtill perſevered in the ſupport and commiſſion of thoſe acts, were in a ſtate of actual rebellion. That thoſe, who by open force make a general reſiſtance to the execution of the laws, are by all writers conſidered as guilty of high treaſon. That many in England had been tried, convicted, and executed for that offence without any complaint of illegality and injuſtice. Were not the acts of as open violence and as much levelled againſt the laws in Maſſachuſett's Bay, as any of thoſe proceedings ſo ſeverely puniſhed here? Or is high treaſon and rebellion of a different nature in America and England? As to the declaration of parliament, it does not preclude the future mercy of the crown, if the rebels ſhould appear to be deſerving of it. This very addreſs was itſelf an act of mercy, in warning an ignorant and obſtinate people of their danger. That it was not neceſſary to puniſh univerſally; the puniſhment of a few of the worſt ſort of traitors, ſuch as Hancock and his crew, might be ſufficient to teach the reſt their duty in future. That the boaſted union of the colonies would diſſolve the moment parliament ſhewed itſelf reſolved on meaſures of vigour and ſeverity. Some gentlemen too (one of them of rank in the army) treated all idea of reſiſtance by the Americans with the utmoſt contempt. They ſaid, that they were neither ſoldiers, nor ever could be made ſo; being naturally of a puſillanimous diſpoſition, and utterly incapable of any ſort of order or diſcipline. That by their lazineſs, uncleanlineſs, or radical defect of conſtitution, they were incapable of going through the ſervice of a campaign; but would melt away with fluxes before they could face an enemy. So that a very ſlight force would be more than ſufficient for their compleat reduction; and to this purpoſe many ludicrous ſtories were told greatly to the entertainment of the houſe.

A gentleman, who had not long before ſat at the treaſury board, from whence he had been removed for a ſpirit not ſufficiently ſubmiſſive, and whoſe abilities were as unqueſtioned as the ſpirit for which he ſuffered, moved to leave out all but the preliminary words of the addreſs, and to ſubſtitute after them the following: "But deploring that the informa-'tion which they" (the papers laid before the houſe) "had afforded, ſerved on-'ly to convince the houſe that the mea-'ſures taken by his majeſty's ſervants 'tended rather to widen than to heal the 'unhappy differences between Great 'Britain and America;" and then prayed an alteration in the ſame.

Upon a diviſion in a very full houſe, the amendment was rejected by a large majority, there being 304 againſt, to 105, who ſupported the queſtion. The queſtion being then put upon the original motion for the addreſs, was carried by nearly the ſame majority, the numbers being 296, to 106.

The minority had not yet, however, done with the buſineſs. Upon receiving the report from the American committee a few days after, a noble lord, whoſe family have at all times been remarkable for their attachment to the conſtitution and liberties of their country, and whoſe anceſtor had a principal ſhare in the revolution, made a motion to recommit the addreſs, which had been agreed to in the committee.

This motion introduced the longeſt and moſt intereſting debate that had taken place in the preſent parliament. All the queſtions upon American affairs that had been agitated ſince the year 1764, and all the arguments they gave riſe to, were again, in ſome degree, controverted or revived; with the addition of thoſe which new matter and a change of circumſtances afforded, or the greateſt ingenuity could ſuggeſt. The matter is of ſuch importance that we ſhall be excuſed going over the debates, as they became known to the public; although ſomething like repetition in a buſineſs like this is inevitable [Vol. xxvii. P. 248.].

After a debate which continued till half an hour paſt two o'clock in the morning, the queſtion being at length put, the motion for the recommitment of the addreſs was rejected by nearly the former majority, the numbers upon the diviſion being 288 againſt, to 105 who ſupported the motion.

A conference was held the next day [Feb 7.] with the lords, at the requeſt of the commons, to propoſe their joining in the addreſs; and the lords accordingly conſented thereto.

[*To be continued.*]

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

A LETTER *from* CLEMENT XIV. *the laſt* POPE, *to his Highneſs the Prince* SANSEVERO. [VOL. xxxiii. P. 359.]

THE petrefactions that I ſent don't deſerve your thanks. I am very ſenſible of the great value and advantage that I reap by correſponding with a philoſopher who delights in the ſtudy of natural hiſtory—who does not admire its phœnomenas and ſports but with a knowledge of their cauſes.

The birds that you get from the new world for the emperor, will be very curious; but I doubt, notwithſtanding all the precautions, whether they will reach our climates alive. Many attempts have been made to bring here the *Colibri*, and the *fly-bird* *. They died within a ſmall diſtance from our ports.

Providence, in giving us the peacock, has ſufficiently enriched us without ſeeking elſewhere for winged beauties. Indeed America has nothing ſo magnificent as our moſt beautiful birds: but we generally prefer what is foreign, for the only reaſon that it comes from afar.

You muſt be much pleaſed with the undertaking of M. de Buffon, a French academician, and his firſt volumes that are publiſhed. I don't know them perfectly, as I only read them haſtily; but the whole ſeems to me admirably well written. I am only ſorry that the author of a natural hiſtory ſhould declare himſelf for a *ſyſtem*. It is apt to make us doubt many things that he advances, and to have battles to fight againſt thoſe who are not of his opinion. Beſides, whatever deviates from the *Geneſis* on the creation of the world, has no prop but paradoxes, or at leaſt hypotheſes.

None but Moſes, as an inſpired author, can really teach us the formation of the world and its developement. Moſes is not an Epicurus, who has recourſe to atoms; a Lucretius, who believes matter to be eternal; a Spinoſa, who admits a material God; a Des Cartes, who liſps on the laws of motion—but a legiſlator who announces to all men, without any heſitation, without dread of being miſtaken, how the world was created. Nothing is more ſimple, and more ſublime, than his beginning. *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.* If he had been an eye-witneſs of it, he could not have ſpoken with more certainty; and by theſe words, mythology, ſyſtems and abſurdities are cruſhed, and appear only as chimeras to the eyes of reaſon.

Whoever does not ſee *truth* in what *Moſes* relates, is not worthy of knowing it. Every day we ſee people embracing hypotheſes which are not even probable; and ſhall we not give credit to what gives the higheſt idea of the power and wiſdom of God?

An eternal world offers a thouſand more difficulties than an eternal intelligent Being; and a co-eternal world is an abſurdity which cannot exiſt, becauſe nothing is ſo antient as God. Beſides, he is a neceſſary being—the world is not.

Can matter, a thing wholly contingent, abſolutely inert, pretend to the ſame prerogatives as a ſpirit all-powerful and immaterial? Thoſe wild fancies have taken their birth from a delirious imagination, and demonſtrate the aſtoniſhing weakneſs of man when he liſtens to himſelf alone.

The hiſtory of nature is a book ſhut to all generations, if they have not in view a *God, Creator* and *Preſerver*; for nothing is more ſenſible than his action. The ſun in all his magnificence and ſplendor, though adored by different nations, has neither underſtanding nor diſcernment; and if his courſe is ſo regular as never to be interrupted an inſtant, the reaſon is plain, he receives the impulſion from a Supreme Agent, whoſe orders are executed with the greateſt punctuality.

It is in vain for us to caſt our eyes on the vaſt extent of this univerſe: we ſee it contained in the immenſity of a Being before whom all the world is as if it did not exiſt. It would be very ſingular, if the ſmalleſt work cannot exiſt without its Maker, that the world ſhould have the privilege of not owing its exiſtence and its beauty but to itſelf alone. Reaſon forms to herſelf frightful precipices when ſhe hearkens only to our paſſions and ſenſes; and *reaſon* without *faith* is poor. All the academies of the univerſe may imagine ſyſtems on the creation of the world; but, after all their reſearches, all their conjectures, all their calculations, and multitudes of volumes, they will tell me much leſs than *Moſes* tells in one page; and what they tell is devoid

* *The humming bird.*

of probability. Such is the difference betwixt the man who only ſpeaks of himſelf, and the man who is inſpired.

The Eternal from the height of the heavens laughs at all theſe fooliſh ſyſtems of philoſophers, who arrange the world to their fancy, and who ſometimes aſcribe its creation to *chance*, and ſometimes ſuppoſe it *eternal*.

Some are fond of perſuading themſelves that matter governs itſelf, and that there is no other Deity, becauſe they know well that matter being abſolutely inert or void of motion, they thence have nothing to dread from its effects; whereas the juſtice of a God, who ſees all, weighs all, is ſtriking for a ſinner.

Nothing is more beautiful than the hiſtory of nature, when it is connected with that of religion. Nature is nothing without God: By the operation of God ſhe produces all, and gives life to all. God, without being compounded of any particle that compounds the univerſe, is its very motion, ſap and life. Take away his action, theſe no longer remain; no more activity in the elements, no vegetation in the plants, no ſpring in the ſecond cauſes, no revolution in the heavenly bodies. Eternal darkneſs would take the place of light; and the univerſe, left to itſelf, would be its own deſtruction.

If I had abilities to write on the hiſtory of nature, I ſhould begin my work by pointing out the immenſe perfections of its Author—by ſpeaking of man as his maſterly performance; and ſucceſſively from ſubſtance to ſubſtance, from ſpecies to ſpecies, I ſhould deſcend to the ant, and ſhould ſhew in the ſmalleſt inſect, as in the moſt perfect angel, the ſame wiſdom beaming forth, and the ſame omnipotence in action. A picture of this kind would intereſt much the lovers of truth; and religion itſelf, which would trace the deſign, would render it infinitely precious.

Let us never ſpeak of the creatures but in relation to the Creator. They are the reverberation of his never-failing light. Theſe are ideas which elevate and humble us; for man is never leſs and greater than when he conſiders himſelf relatively to God. Then he conſiders an Infinite Being, of whom he is the image, before whom he is an atom; two things apparently contrary, which he muſt reconcile in order to have a juſt idea of himſelf, that he may not fall into the exceſs of the proud angels, nor into that of the incredulous, who reduce themſelves to the condition of brutes.

Your letter, my lord, has led me to theſe reflections; and I confeſs to you, at the ſame time, that I have no greater ſatisfaction than when I find an occaſion to ſpeak of God. He is the element of our heart. It is in his love alone that the heart can unfold itſelf.

From the earlieſt time of my youth I was ſenſible of that great truth, and I choſe the cloiſter conſequently as a retirement ſeparated from the creatures, wherein I might more eaſily think of my Creator. Society with the world is ſo tumultuous, that one ſeldom feels the recollection that unites us to God.

I thought I was juſt writing a ſermon, with this difference, that, inſtead of ending with *Amen*, I ſhall end it with the reſpect that is due to you, and with which I have the honour to be,

GANGANELLI.

Rome, Dec. 13. 1754.

Parallel betwixt CLEMENT XIV. *and* SIXTUS-QUINTUS; *from the Life of* CLEMENT, *by M.* CARACCIOLI, *juſt publiſhed.*

HISTORY will draw a compariſon between Clement XIV. and Sixtus-Quintus; nor will it be a hard taſk to ſhew how far they were alike, and how far they were unlike one another.

Both entered the order of conventual friars; but Sixtus was only the ſon of a herdſman, and of obſcure birth, whereas Clement was the ſon of a phyſician, and deſcended from a gentleman's family, originally of *St Angelo* in *Vado*, and not of *Franche-comte*, as ſome gave out.

Sixtus lived in the cloiſter much leſs beloved than eſteemed: Clement was univerſally beloved and reſpected.

Sixtus put in motion every ſecret ſpring of policy, and even aſſumed an exterior of humility to obtain the Papacy: Clement dreaded that formidable burden more than death itſelf.

Sixtus, during his pontificate, ſhewed a haughtineſs and inflexibility, by which he often offended the potentates: Clement became the friend of the monarchs by his moſt engaging character and peaceable diſpoſition.

Sixtus, ſtill more jealous of his temporal than of his ſpiritual authority, ran his race to glory by grandeur and ſeverity;

Clement acquired a more ſolid and more merited reputation, by ſhewing himſelf rather a father than a ſovereign.

Sixtus publiſhed decrees which ſhewed his ſkill in the art of government, and how well he could make himſelf obeyed: Clement, even when he commanded, ſeemed to intreat; and his edicts, whoſe object was both the ſpiritual and temporal welfare of thoſe concerned, ſhewed at one and the ſame time the Pope and the Prince.

Sixtus embelliſhed Rome with ſome precious monuments, which proved his taſte for magnificence and the arts: Clement, by his Muſæum (the ſight of which is moſt raviſhing), ſhewed evidently that he was no leſs attentive to the decoration of the capital than the former, and that he contributed no leſs towards it.

Sixtus aggrandized his own family by raiſing his nephew to the dignity of cardinal: Clement would not ſuffer his relations to be mentioned to him; and himſelf bore with regret the honours he could not avoid.

Sixtus, at the ſolicitation of Spain, was conſidering of the means either to aboliſh, or at leaſt reform the *company of Jeſus*; "but, being taken off by a ſud-'den death, the ſalutary deſign he had 'formed vaniſhed, and remained with-'out effect *:" Clement accompliſhed the ſuppreſſion of that body.

Laſtly, it was ſuſpected that Sixtus was poiſoned, after having reigned five years, four months, and three days: Clement died, not without the like ſuſpicion, having filled the chair of St Peter the ſame ſpace of time, within a few hours.—He was born the 31ſt of October 1705, was choſen Pope the 19th of May 1769, and died the 22d of September 1774.

Thoughts on the Genius of the Antients and Moderns.

THE ſole queſtion of the pre-eminence between the antients and the moderns, being once rightly underſtood, comes to this, Whether trees were formerly higher than they are now? If ſo, Homer, Plato, Demoſthenes, cannot be equalled in theſe latter ages; but, if our trees are as tall as thoſe of old, we may equal them. Let us explain this paradox. If the antients had more wit than we, it follows that the brains of thoſe times were better diſpoſed, formed of firmer or more delicate fibres, and filled with a greater quantity of animal ſpirits: but by what means ſhould the brains of thoſe times have been better diſpoſed? The trees ought then to have been higher and more beautiful; for, if nature was then younger and more vigorous, trees, as well as the brains of men, ought to have felt the influence of that youthful vigour. When the admirers of the antients tell us, that they are the ſprings of judgment and reaſon, and the lights deſigned to enlighten the reſt of mankind; that the meaſure of our admiration of them is the teſt of our wit; and that nature has exhauſted herſelf to produce theſe great originals; in truth, they repreſent them of another kind than us, and natural philoſophy cannot be reconciled to all theſe fine phraſes. Nature hath in her hands a certain clay that is always the ſame, which ſhe turns and handles continually a thouſand different ways, and out of which ſhe forms men, animals, and vegetables; and certainly ſhe hath not ſhaped Plato, Demoſthenes, or Homer, of a finer or better prepared earth than our modern philoſophers, orators and poets. What I obſerve here is with reſpect to our ſpirits, that are not of a material nature, and by their different diſpoſitions produce all the differences that are among them.

It is plain that all the differences between the antients and us muſt be occaſioned by foreign circumſtances, as time, government, and the ſtate of the generality of affairs. The antients, ſome will ſay, have invented all, therefore they poſſeſſed more genius than us; but this does not follow; they were only before us. They may as well be extolled for having drank before us the water of our rivers, and we leſſened and ſcorned for only drinking their leavings. Had we been in their place, we ſhould have invented: were they in ours, they would add to what they found already invented. There is no great myſtery in all this.

I do not ſpeak of thoſe inventions which owe their birth merely to chance, and which may honour the greateſt blockhead in the world: I only ſpeak of that which required ſome meditation

* *Verum immatura morte prærepto, ſalubberrimum ab eo ſuſceptum conſilium evanuit, omniquæ caruit effectu.* Clem. XIV. Brief.

and effort of ſpirit. It is certain that the meaneſt of that kind have been reſerved for extraordinary men; and that all we could have expected from Archimedes, in the world's infancy, might have been to invent the plough; whereas, placed in another age, with glaſſes he contracts the ſun's dilated rays, and burns the Roman ſhips, if this be not a fable.

If we would give ſpecious and dazzling proofs, it might be affirmed, to the glory of the moderns, that the mind hath no need of a great effort for the firſt diſcoveries; and that nature ſeems to lead us to them herſelf: but that there is need of a greater effort to add ſomething to a diſcovery, and the greater in proportion to what additions it hath already received, becauſe the matter is then found more drained, and what remains to be diſcovered of it is leſs expoſed to our eyes. Perhaps the admirers of antiquity would not neglect ſuch an argument if it favoured their party; but I freely confeſs it is not ſolid. It is true that, to add to the firſt diſcoveries, there is often need of a greater effort. The mind is already enlightened by thoſe diſcoveries which are already made. We have inſights borrowed from others, which join themſelves to thoſe of our own ſtock; and if we ſurpaſs the firſt inventor, it was he who helped us to do it: ſo that he always partakes of the glory of our work; and if he withdrew what belongs to him, we ſhould have no more ſhare in it than he.

I am even ſo nicely conſcientious in this point, that I do not charge the antients with an infinite number of falſe ideas, falſe conſequences they have drawn, and fooliſh things that they have ſaid. Such is our condition, that we are not allowed to attain all at once to any thing that is reaſonable upon any ſubject whatſoever: we are firſt obliged to go aſtray a long time, and wander through ſeveral ſorts of errors, and various degrees of impertinence. One would imagine that it might always have been very eaſy to diſcover that all the daily ſport of nature conſiſts in the figures and motions of bodies; yet, before we could reach to this, we have been obliged to try the ideas of Plato, the numbers of Pythagoras, and the qualities of Ariſtotle; and all theſe having been found to be falſe, the world hath been reduced to take the true ſyſtem: I ſay reduced, for in truth there was never another left; and it ſeems men have received it as late as they could. We are obliged to the antients for having drained for us moſt of the falſe ideas we could have had. There was an abſolute neceſſity of paying to error and ignorance the tribute which they have paid; and we ought to be grateful to thoſe who have diſcharged us from it. The like happens upon various occaſions, wherein there is an infinite number of fooliſh things which we could ſay, had they not been ſaid, and as it were ſnatched from us already. Nevertheleſs, ſome of the moderns ſeize on them again, becauſe they have not yet been ſaid often enough. Being thus enlightened by the lights, and even by the faults of the antients, it is not to be wondered at if we ſurpaſs them. Only to equal them would prove us of a nature much inferior to theirs, and rob us of the title of men, whilſt we know they were no more.

However, that the moderns may ſurpaſs the antients, muſt be admitted: For example, rhetoric and poetry require but a certain number of ideas, circumſcribed within no very extended ſphere, and chiefly depend on the quickneſs of imagination. Now, men may in few ages have reunited and collected a ſmall number of ideas; and the quickneſs of imagination hath no need of a long ſeries of experiments, nor of a great number of rules, to attain the higheſt perfection poſſible: but natural philoſophy, phyſic, and mathematics, are compoſed of an infinite number of ideas, and depend upon the juſtneſs of the thinking faculty, which improves it with an extreme ſlowneſs, and is continually improving. It is neceſſary that it ſhould be helped by experiments due merely to chance: yet it is plain that all this hath no end; and that the laſt phyſicians and mathematicians will naturally be the moſt learned. Indeed the principal notion of philoſophy, and what communicates itſelf to the reſt, I mean the art of reaſoning, has received conſiderable improvements in our age.

I am afraid that many will not be reconciled to the following remark; yet I will venture to give it for thoſe who have a nice taſte of reaſoning. The antients were not apt to reaſon with the niceſt preciſion. With them weak conveniencies, little ſimilitudes, witticiſms ſcarce ever ſolid, wide and confuſed diſcourſes, with digreſſions, often paſs for proofs, and thus, indeed, they eaſily prove any thing; but what the antients uſed to demon-

ſtrate with ſo much eaſe, would coſt a great deal of labour to the poor moderns; for how ſevere are we not grown in point of reaſonings? They muſt now be intelligible, juſt and concluſive. The world is ſo critical as to point out the leaſt equivocal expreſſion, either of ideas or of words; and ſo ſevere as to condemn the moſt ingenious thing if it does not come to the point. Before Newton, Bacon and Locke, people uſed to reaſon with more eaſe; the former ages are very happy not to have had theſe great men. In ſhort, there is to be found, not only in our works of natural philoſophy and metaphyſics, but alſo in thoſe of religion, morality and criticiſm, an exact juſtneſs and nice diſcrimination, but little known to former ages. I am even very much aſſured that they will be brought to a ſtill greater perfection, as we ſhall one day be antients too, and then it will be very reaſonable that our poſterity, in their turn, correct and outdo us, principally in the manner of reaſoning, which is a particular ſcience, and, though the moſt difficult, the leaſt cultivated of any.

A MODERN.

[AS we have had preſſing ſolicitations from SIMPLICIA (a lady of diſtinction) to give ſome extracts from the life and converſion of a very great man in the laſt century; and as the book is very ſcarce, we hope our readers, for the ſake of the matter contained in it, will indulge our compliance with her requeſt.]

Some PASSAGES *of the* LIFE *and* DEATH *of the Right Hon.* JOHN *Earl of* Rocheſter. *Written by his own Direction on his Death-bed, by* GILBERT BURNET, D. D.

JOHN WILMOT, earl of Rocheſter, was born in April 1648. His father was Henry earl of Rocheſter, but beſt known by the title of the lord Wilmot, who bore ſo great a part in all the civil wars, that mention is often made of him in the hiſtory; and had the chief ſhare in the honour of the preſervation of king Charles II. after Worceſter fight, and the conveying him from place to place, till he happily eſcaped into France; but dying before the king's return, he left his ſon little other inheritance but the honour and title derived to him, with the pretenſions ſuch eminent ſervices gave him to the king's favour.

He came from his travels in the eighteenth year of his age, and appeared at court with as great advantages as moſt ever had. He was a graceful and well ſhaped perſon, tall and well made, if not a little too ſlender. He was exactly well bred, and what by a modeſt behaviour natural to him, what by a civility become almoſt as natural, his converſation was eaſy and obliging. He had a ſtrange vivacity of thought and vigour of expreſſion. His wit had a ſubtilety and ſublimity both that were ſcarce imitable. His ſtile was clear and ſtrong. When he uſed figures they were very lively, and yet far enough out of the common road. He had made himſelf maſter of the antient and modern wit, and of the modern French and Italian as well as the Engliſh. He loved to talk and write of ſpeculative matters, and did it with ſo fine a thread, that even thoſe who hated the ſubjects that his fancy ran upon, yet could not but be charmed with his way of treating of them. Boileau among the French, and Cowley among the Engliſh wits, were thoſe he admired moſt. Sometimes other men's thoughts mixed with his compoſures; but that flowed rather from the impreſſions they made on him when he read them, by which they came to return upon him as his own thoughts, than that he ſervilely copied from any: for few men ever had a bolder flight of fancy, more ſteadily governed by judgment than he had. No wonder a young man ſo made, and ſo improved, was very acceptable in a court.

He had ſo intirely laid down the intemperance that was growing on him before his travels, that at his return he hated nothing more: But, falling into company that loved theſe exceſſes, he was, though not without difficulty, and by many ſteps, brought back to it again: and the natural heat of his fancy being inflamed by wine, made him ſo extravagantly pleaſant, that many, to be more diverted by that humour, ſtudied to engage him deeper and deeper in intemperance, which at length did ſo intirely ſubdue him, that, as he told me, for five years together he was continually drunk: not all the while under the viſible effect of it, but his blood was ſo inflamed, that he was not in all that time cool enough

to be perfectly master of himself. This led him to say and do many wild and unaccountable things. By this, he said, he had broke the firm constitution of his health, that seemed so strong that nothing was too hard for it; and he had suffered so much in his reputation, that he almost despaired to recover it.

Though in cold blood he was a generous and good-natured man, yet he would go far in his heats after any thing that might turn to a jest or matter of diversion. He laid out his wit very freely in libels and satires, in which he had a peculiar talent of mixing his wit with his malice, and fitting both with such apt words, that men were tempted to be pleased with them: from thence his compositures came to be easily known, for few had such a way of tempering these together as he had; so that, when any thing extraordinary that way came out, as a child is fathered sometimes by its resemblance, so was it laid at his door as its parent and author.

These exercises in the course of his life were not always equally pleasant to him: he had often sad intervals and severe reflections on them: and though then he had not these awakened in him from any deep principle of religion, yet the horror that nature raised in him, especially in some sicknesses, made him too easy to receive some ill principles which others endeavoured to possess him with. The licentiousness of his temper, with the briskness of his wit, disposed him to love the conversation of those who divided their time between lewd actions and irregular mirth: and so he came to bend his wit, and direct his studies and endeavours to support and strengthen these ill principles both in himself and others.

An accident fell out after this, which confirmed him more in these courses: When he went to sea in the year 1665, there happened to be in the same ship with him Mr Montague and another gentleman of quality: these two, the former especially, seemed persuaded that they should never return to England. Mr Montague said he was sure of it; the other was not so positive. The earl of Rochester and the last of these entered into a formal engagement, not without ceremonies of religion, that if either of them died, he should appear, and give the other notice of the future state, if there was any: but Mr Montague would not enter into the bond.

When the day came that they thought to have taken the Dutch fleet in the port of Bergen, Mr Montague, though he had such a strong presage in his mind of his approaching death, yet he generously staid all the while in the place of greatest danger: the other gentleman signalized his courage in a most undaunted manner till near the end of the action, when he fell on a sudden into such a trembling that he could scarce stand; and Mr Montague going to him to hold him up, as they were in each other's arms, a cannon-ball killed him outright, and carried away Mr Montague's belly, so that he died within an hour after. The earl of Rochester told me that these presages they had in their minds made some impression on him that there were separated beings; and that the soul, either by a natural sagacity, or some secret notice communicated to it, had a sort of divination: but that gentleman's never appearing was a great snare to him during the rest of his life; though, when he told me this, he could not but acknowledge it was an unreasonable thing for him to think that beings in another state were not under such laws and limits, that they could not command their own motions but as the Supreme Power should order them; and that one who had so corrupted the natural principles of truth as he had, had no reason to expect that such an extraordinary thing should be done for his conviction.

He told me of another odd presage that one had of his approaching death in the lady Warre his mother-in-law's house: The chaplain had dreamed that on such a day he should die; but being by all the family put out of the belief of it, he had almost forgot it, till the evening before at supper, there being thirteen at table, according to a fond conceit that one of these must soon die, one of the young ladies pointed to him that he was to die. He remembering his dream, fell into some disorder; and the lady Warre reproving him for his superstition, he said he was confident he was to die before morning; but he being in perfect health, it was not much minded. It was Saturday night, and he was to preach next day. He went to his chamber, and sat up late, as appeared by the burning of his candle; and he had been preparing his notes for his sermon, but was found dead in his bed the next morning. These things, he said, made him inclined

to believe that the ſoul was a ſubſtance diſtinct from matter; and this often returned into his thoughts.

But that which perfected his perſuaſion about it was, that, in the ſickneſs which brought him ſo near death before I firſt knew him, when his ſpirits were ſo low and ſpent that he could not move nor ſtir, and he did not think to live an hour, he ſaid his reaſon and judgment were ſo clear and ſtrong, that from thence he was fully perſuaded that death was not the ſpending or diſſolution of the ſoul, but only the ſeparation of it from matter. He had in that ſickneſs great remorſes for his paſt life; but he afterwards told me that they were rather general and dark horrors than any convictions of ſinning againſt God. He was ſorry he had lived ſo as to waſte his ſtrength ſo ſoon, or that he had brought ſuch an ill name upon himſelf, and had an agony in his mind about it, which he knew not well how to expreſs: but at ſuch times, though he complied with his friends in ſuffering divines to be ſent for, he ſaid he had no great mind to it; and that it was but a piece of his breeding to deſire them to pray by him, in which he joined little himſelf.

[*To be continued.*]

On LITERARY IMPROVEMENT.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I SHOULD think I deſerved the imputation of ingratitude, did I not acknowledge the benefit I have lately received from your Magazine. Without being a ſubſcriber, I have had frequent opportunities of peruſing it, and confeſs I have got much uſeful inſtruction from it. As far as I am capable of judging, it ſeems to have a tendency to promote the general intereſts of religion, virtue and liberty, as well as the particular intereſts of this country, in her fiſheries, manufactures and agriculture. Whilſt you ſteadily keep ſuch important objects in view, you cannot fail of giving general ſatisfaction; and it is to be hoped will meet with the encouragement you deſerve.

You appear to be particularly happy in a judicious ſelection of matter, as well as fortunate in having a ſet of correſpondents that would render any publication uſeful and reſpectable. Several of them ſeem to be well qualified for laſhing vice and folly, conſequently proper perſons to ſuperintend our manners. Others ſeem equally fitted to inſpire us with a love of our country, and to rouſe us into an exertion of our natural ſtrength, and an attention to our true intereſts. For my own part, I freely confeſs I have received great benefit from hints I have found in your Magazine. An ingenuous mind cannot receive a greater obligation than friendly advice and inſtruction, or even reprehenſion and moderate correction (when neceſſary), provided always it appears to flow from good motives, not from caprice or ill-nature. The humane, the worthy, the candid, are the proper perſons to execute this moſt important duty. They will always do it with temper and mildneſs where circumſtances will admit. Well knowing how very hard, nay, how impoſſible it is in this life to arrive at perfection, and conſtantly to adhere to the paths of virtue, they will always be ready to put the moſt favourable conſtruction on their neighbours' actions, and, where they cannot altogether vindicate, make all reaſonable allowances for the errors of their fellow-creatures. I am apt to think that, ſetting aſide all vicious paſſions and inclinations, the moſt upright and honeſt will own they are often at a loſs to diſtinguiſh which is the moſt eligible line of duty.

I am one of thoſe whom the preſent unhappy diſturbances in America has thrown idle. I have been in this ſtate for twelve months paſt; and though I find it very diſagreeable, I wiſh to be patient and reſigned until the unhappy quarrel can be terminated, or that I can fall into ſome other way of buſineſs. In the mean time I would wiſh to ſpend my idle time in endeavouring to improve myſelf.

Some time ago one of your correſpondents [Vol. xxxiii. P 199.] recommended (I thought in a very ſenſible manner) the ſtudy of hiſtory as a proper mean of improving the mind. I wiſh he had condeſcended upon the particular authors that he judges proper, and the order in which he would adviſe them to be read. In this he might perhaps oblige many more as well as me. I have not the moſt diſtant hopes of ever making any figure in the literary world: the character of the man of buſineſs is that to which I aſpire, and in which alone, I am ſenſible, it is

that I can raiſe myſelf to eſteem and independence, or be an uſeful member of ſociety, as it is in that way I have been bred, and ſpent a great part of my paſt life: But I cannot think that ignorance and clowniſhneſs are eſſentials in the character of a man of buſineſs. Though a perſon may not have abilities to enable him to appear with tolerable eaſe and graceſulneſs in public print; though he may be far, very far from poſſeſſing the talents that would intitle him to aſſume the important air of a critic or cenſor, which, if perſiſted in (when one is conſcious of being altogether unequal to that arduous taſk), muſt be the moſt egregious folly, and either ſink a perſon into contempt, or expoſe him to juſt and ſevere ridicule; yet I think no man of buſineſs need be aſhamed to allow ſome part of his time that he can conveniently ſpare to the cultivation of his mind, the improvement of his underſtanding, poliſhing his manners, and endeavouring to mend his heart. I cannot help thinking that this muſt be conducive to a man's intereſt and happineſs in any ſituation, and will enable him the better to diſcharge all the duties of life.

Had I any fixed place of reſidence, I would be fond of becoming one of your cuſtomers. As I have no pretenſions to genius, and ſenſible that dullneſs can claim no right to incroach upon your time, which ſhould be more uſefully employed, you may be aſſured that I ſhall ſeldom (perhaps never) in future trouble you with my literary effuſions—never unleſs ſomething ſhould occur to me, the hinting of which may appear to have a tendency to promote the good of my country. Yours, &c.

T——— R——.

Queen's-Hill, near Kirkcudbright,
Sept. 19.

A glorious Proſpect during the Paſſage of the Strait of Gibraltar, *in the Month of July, 1764. From the Reverend Doctor* CHANDLER's *Travels in* Aſia Minor.

OUR paſſage through the ſtrait of Gibraltar was amuſing and delightful beyond imagination. The coaſt on each ſide is irregular, adorned with lofty groteſque mountains of various ſhapes, the majeſtic tops worn white with rain, and looking as crowned with ſnow. From one of the narrow vallies a thick ſmoke aroſe. The land is of a brown complexion, as ſun-burnt and barren. On the Spaniſh ſhore are many watch-towers, ranging along to a great extent, deſigned to alarm the country by ſignals on the appearance of an enemy. We had Spaniſh and Mooriſh towns in view, with the rock and fortreſs of Gibraltar. Sea-birds were flying, and numerous ſmall craft moving to and fro, on every quarter. We had a gentle breeze, and our ſails all ſet, with the current from the weſtern or Atlantic ocean in our favour. In this, the water was agitated and noiſy, like a ſhallow brook running over pebbles; while, in the contrary currents, it was ſmooth and calm as in a mill-pond, except where diſturbed by albicores, porpuſſes, and ſea-monſters, which ſported around us, innumerable. Their burniſhed ſides reflected the rays of the ſun, which then ſhone in a picturesque ſky, of clear azure ſoftened by thin fleecy clouds, imparting chearfulneſs to the waves, which ſeemed to ſmile on us.

Our entry into the Mediterranean is here faintly deſcribed, as no words can convey the ideas excited by ſcenes of ſo much novelty, grandeur, and beauty. The vaſt aſſemblage of bulky monſters in particular was beyond meaſure amazing; ſome leaping up, as if aiming to divert us; ſome approaching the ſhip, as it were to be ſeen, floating together abreaſt, and half out of the water. We counted in one company fourteen, of the ſpecies called by the ſailors *The Bottle-Noſe*, each, as we gueſſed, about twelve feet long. Theſe are almoſt ſhapeleſs, looking black and oily, with a large thick fin on the back, no eyes or mouth diſcernible, the head rounded at the extremity, and ſo joined with the body as to render it difficult to diſtinguiſh where the one ends or the other begins; but on the upper part is a hole about an inch and a half in diameter, from which, at regular intervals, the log-like being blows out water accompanied with a puff audible at ſome diſtance.

To compleat this wonderful day, the ſun before its ſetting was exceedingly big, and aſſumed a variety of fantaſtic ſhapes. It was ſurrounded firſt with a golden glory, of great extent, and flamed upon the ſurface of the ſea in a long column of fire. The lower half of the orb ſoon after immerged in the horizon, the other portion remaining very large and red, with half of a ſmaller orb beneath it, and ſeparate, but in the ſame direction,

the circular rim approaching the line of its diameter. Theſe two by degrees united, and then changed rapidly into different figures, until the reſemblance was that of a capacious punch-bowl inverted. The rim of the bottom extending upward, and the body lengthening below, it became a muſhroom on a ſtalk, with a round head. It was next metamorphoſed into a flaming cauldron, of which the lid, riſing up, ſwelled nearly into an orb, and vaniſhed. The other portion put on ſeveral uncircular forms, and after many twinklings and faint glimmerings ſlowly diſappeared, quite red; leaving the clouds, hanging over the dark rocks on the Barbary ſhore, finely tinged with a vivid bloody hue.

And here we may recollect, that the antients had various ſtories concerning the ſetting of the ſun in the Atlantic ocean; as for inſtance, that it was accompanied with a noiſe, as of the ſea hiſſing, and that night immediately followed. That its magnitude in going down apparently increaſed, was a popular remark, but had been contradicted by an author, who obſerved thirty evenings at Gades, and never perceived any augmentation. One writer had affirmed, that the orb became an hundred times bigger than its common ſize.

This phænomenon will vary, as it depends on the ſtate of the atmoſphere. It is likely to be moſt remarkable when weſterly winds have prevailed for ſome time; theſe coming over the Atlantic ocean, and bringing with them the groſs vapours, which ariſe continually, or are exhaled, from that immenſe body of water.

Particulars relative to the Woolen Manufacture at Inverary.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IT muſt give real pleaſure to every friend of his country to obſerve the many uſeful hints and obſervations upon the improvement of manufactures, which are weekly communicated to the public by your inſtructive and entertaining Magazine; and it may be expected, that theſe hints will induce the noblemen and gentlemen of North Britain to turn their attention towards promoting ſuch manufactures as the produce and ſituation of their neighbourhood are beſt adapted for. The many improvements carrying on by his grace the duke of Argyle at Inverary, have with juſtice attracted the attention of your ingenious correſpondents; and though Claudius ſays, that the deſcription of fine walks and caſtles are only calculated to promote the pleaſures of imagination, yet theſe walks and buildings have employed hundreds of families who would have been in want of the neceſſaries of life, and obliged to emigrate for their daily bread.

The lands of Argyleſhire being put under ſheep paſture, makes it neceſſary that the gentlemen of the county ſhould think of ſome expedient to employ the great number of families, who, by that means, are turned out of their ſmall poſſeſſions; and his grace the duke of Argyle has wiſely begun a woolen manufactory at Inverary, which will prove a permanent fund of employment for men, women, and children, at all ſeaſons of the year.

It is not neceſſary that a perſon who gives his opinion to the public, ſhould inquire minutely into the capital employed by any particular company, and I cannot help thinking that your correſpondent from the Braes of Cowal has been premature in his reflections upon the gentlemen of Argyleſhire in that reſpect, as I am informed that the ſum thought neceſſary by the manager to carry on the buſineſs for the firſt year, was ſubſcribed by a few gentlemen upon the propoſal's being firſt mentioned to them, but when a larger ſum is found neceſſary (as the inimitable Thomſon beautifully expreſſes it),

Oh is there not ſome patriot, in whoſe power
That beſt, that godlike luxury is plac'd,
Of bleſſing thouſands thouſands yet unborn
Through late poſterity? Some, large of ſoul,
To chear dejected induſtry? To give
A double harveſt to the pining ſwain?
And teach the lab'ring hand the ſweets of toil?
How, by the fineſt art, the native robe
To weave; how, white as Hyperborean ſnow,
To form the lucid lawn? ——
Yes, there are ſuch; and full on thee, *Argyll*,
Her hope, her ſtay, her darling, and her boaſt,
From her firſt patriots and her heroes ſprung,
Thy fond imploring country turns her eye;
In thee, with all a mother's triumph, ſees
Her every virtue, every grace combin'd.

Every perſon acquainted with the many difficulties and impediments which muſt unavoidably happen in eſtabliſhing a manufactory in a country totally ignorant of all the branches, will approve of

beginning with a ſmall ſtock. In England, where that manufactory has been long eſtabliſhed, a perſon does not think of engaging in it under five or ſix thouſand pounds of ſtock, and ſome houſes have one hundred thouſand pounds employed in that trade; but, as yet, manufactures are in an infant ſtate in Scotland, and no ſooner does a man get poſſeſſion of four or five thouſand pounds, than he is unhappy till he gets it laid out upon a piece of ground, that he may be called *a Laird*. It is a certain fact, that any attempts hitherto made to eſtabliſh the woolen manufacture in North Britain upon an extenſive plan, have failed of that ſucceſs which at firſt view might have been expected, even when only merchants, men of ſkill and experience in other branches of trade, have been concerned: and I have reaſon to think, that theſe failures have, in general, been owing to the want of knowledge in the proper goods to which the wool ſhould be applied,—to a great part of the intended capital being ſunk in building houſes, purchaſing utenſils, and bringing tradeſmen from diſtant parts, who either were not maſters of the branches they profeſſed, or were ſo diſſipated as not to pay proper attention to their buſineſs; or to the management being left to improper perſons, whoſe intereſt was not immediately connected with the buſineſs, ſo that the adventurers, after two or three years trial, finding the profits did not anſwer their expectations, either withdrew their capital, or left it to be loſt by negligence and inattention. Claudius ſays, that living is very dear at Inverary; I am told that coals are ſo alſo; both of which are drawbacks upon a manufactory; but, from the ſituation of the place, beef, mutton, lamb, butter, cheeſe, and fiſh, muſt be plenty; and if a market is eſtabliſhed under proper regulations, they muſt be cheap, there being no populous city nearer than Glaſgow, which is moſtly ſupplied with butcher meat from the Highlands; meal, with other grain, may at all times be got from Ireland, or from Clyde, at little expence. The duty paid by the inhabitants of the Highlands upon coals is a tax which no other part of the kingdom is ſubject to, and if once it becomes of ſo much conſequence as to make an application to parliament neceſſary, ſome relief will certainly be obtained.

In every reſpect this infant manufactory ſeems to promiſe ſucceſs, being ſituated in a country where the principal materials are produced of a good quality in great abundance, where no other manufactory is eſtabliſhed to interfere with it, and from whence there is an eaſy acceſs by water-carriage to every part of the globe with which it is neceſſary they ſhould have any correſpondence. His grace the duke of Argyle has generouſly removed the firſt great impediment to manufacturers, by furniſhing the houſes and utenſils free of rent. The manager's intereſt, it is ſaid, is connected with the profits, and from his character, which is well known to many in this city, all that can be expected from experience, diligence, and integrity, may be depended upon; ſo that if the adventurers perſevere for a few years, nor be alarmed at any trifling misfortunes, and only increaſe their capital as they find their demands to increaſe, and as the people are intruſted in the manufacture, they may be aſſured of ſucceſs, and it may become a national, as well as a county advantage.

Claudius is of opinion, that a greater number of merchants ſhould be concerned: they might, no doubt, promote the ſale of the goods, but coarſe woolen goods, equal in quality and price to theſe made in Yorkſhire and Kendal, will always meet with a ready market; and ſince it is the duty, as well as the intereſt, of the gentlemen of property in the county to eſtabliſh it, ſo it is reaſonable they ſhould alſo reap the profits ariſing from it. Yours, &c. *A* MERCHANT.

Glaſgow, Sept. 28.

Queries concerning the Rhubarb Plant.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

THE introduction of the *rheum palmatum*, or true officinal rhubarb, into this country, ſeveral years ago, by means of a parcel of ſeeds brought over from St Peterſburgh by the late Dr Mounſey, was doubtleſs a very valuable acquiſition, both to our botanic gardens, and to the nation in general: But, though the cultivation of that valuable and beautiful plant has ſucceeded very well in almoſt every part of the kingdom, yet I, and I believe many others, who have taken great pains in rearing it, are greatly at a loſs about the proper method of rendering it fit for medicinal purpoſes. I have

therefore drawn up the following Queries, which I hope you will be kind enough to inſert in your uſeful Magazine; and I make no doubt but ſome of your numerous correſpondents will be pleaſed to favour me, and others as ignorant as I am, with ſuch anſwers as will enable us to reap ſome profit for the care we have beſtowed on the cultivation of it.

QUERIES.

1. Of what age ought rhubarb plants to be before they be taken up?

2. In what ſeaſon of the year ſhould they be raiſed?—In ſpring, or in autumn?

3. What is the beſt method of ordering and drying them?—In the ſun, or in the ſhade?

4. Is rhubarb fit for medicinal uſe immediately after being thoroughly dried?—Or how long ought it to lie before it be uſed?

Yours, &c. DIOSCORIDES.

Sept. 24. 1776.

OBSERVATIONS *on ſome* ENGLISH PROVERBS.

To the PRINTER, *&c.*

SIR,

MY lord Bacon obſerves, that the genius, wit, and ſpirits of a nation are deſcribed by their proverbs; ſuch as the noble ſublimity of the antient Greeks and Romans, the gravity of the Spaniards, the ſprightlineſs of the French, and the rugged ſimplicity of the Engliſh. I ſhall make a few obſervations on thoſe proverbs, which are either originally Engliſh, or adopted by our countrymen, and chiefly applied to perſons in high life.

"Sail, quoth the king; hold, quoth the wind."

This is a proper admonition to kings, that however great their power may be over their ſubjects, the wind, ſeas, and weather will not obey them, let them bluſter and threaten as much as they pleaſe.

"The king's cheeſe goes half away in parings."

That is, a great deal of it is ſquandered away amongſt the collectors and other officers of the revenue, in public ſalaries, and perhaps private embezzlements, unleſs they are ſtrictly watched and often called to account.

"The king's chaff is worth more than other men's corn."

This ſignifies, that even the little perquiſites which attend the king's ſervice, are more conſiderable than the ſtanding wages of private perſons.

"He that eats the king's gooſe will be choaked with his feathers."

Though too many princes don't care how much their poor ſubjects are fleeced, they ſeldom pardon ſuch injuries when done to themſelves, eſpecially if they happen to be defrauded in that which is their darling paſſion; and therefore ſome of our modern miniſters, much wiſer than their predeceſſors, inſtead of touching a bit of their maſter's gooſe, have fattened it up for his own table at the people's expence, as well as another for themſelves.

"Kings and bears often worry their keepers."

This is a very groſs compariſon, and I am ſorry to find it amongſt our Engliſh proverbs; though even Solomon, who was a wiſe king, as well as the wiſeſt of men, makes uſe of it. Nay the truth of it is confirmed by a thouſand inſtances in hiſtory, and ought to be a warning to all bad miniſters and courtiers; ſome of whom are ſo ſenſible of their danger, that they uſe their maſters little better than bears, keeping them almoſt conſtantly muzzled and tied up; they thus grow tame, and find it for their advantage to lead them about themſelves.

"The people's love is the king's life-guard."

Theſe words contain ſo plain and excellent a moral, that they ſtand in need of no comment, and ought to be fixed up in characters of gold over the gates of every palace.

"It is well ſaid, but who will bell the cat?"

This is a Scottiſh proverb, and was occaſioned, as Mr Kelly (not Mr Hugh Kelly) informs us, by the following circumſtance in hiſtory. The nobility of Scotland entered into a combination againſt one Spence, the favourite of K. James III. It was propoſed to go in a body to Stirling, ſeize Spence, and hang him; then to offer their ſervice to the king, as his natural counſellors; upon which lord Gray obſerved, It is well ſaid, but who will bell the cat? alluding to the fable of the mice, who propoſed to put a bell about the cat's neck, that they might be appriſed of her coming. The earl of Angus replied, that he would bell the cat, which he accordingly executed, and was ever afterwards called Archibald Bell

Cat.—This furniſhes the nobility of all nations with a very good leſſon, not to ſuffer a wicked favourite to domineer over his ſovereign, as well as themſelves, and the whole nation, without exerting their authority againſt him, in the moſt rigorous manner, according to law.

"A friend at court is worth a penny in the purſe."

My author ſeems to be of opinion, that this ſaying came into uſe before the cuſtom of buying commiſſions, and placing of money; becauſe at preſent a purſe ſeems to be the only friend at court, without which nothing is to be got there but neglect and empty promiſes, unleſs a man hath it in his power to do a great man ſome notable job.

"As long as you are in the fox's ſervice, you muſt hold up his tail."

This is a ſevere ſarcaſm upon the abject tools, and implies that they muſt ſubmit to any dirty work which their paymaſter ſhall think fit to impoſe upon them; ſuch as holding up his tail, or even his ſtrumpet's tail; for if they boggle at any thing, they are ſure of being kicked off and expoſed. To ſuch perſons therefore I would recommend the following proverb:—"Leave the court 'ere the court leave thee."

"If the devil be vicar, you'll be clerk."

This is ſpoken of trimmers, turn-coats, and time-ſervers, who abound too much in all courts, and commonly take the advice of another proverb,

"Never go to the devil with a diſh-clout in your hand."

For he muſt be a fool, as well as a knave, who ſells his ſoul for a trifle, if he can get any thing conſiderable by it; and herein conſiſts the only difference between a rogue of ſtate and a poor pick-picket. The former may be thought more honourable, according to court language; but the latter is equally honeſt, and much more excuſeable.

"Go back, and fall; go forward, and mar all."

Applied to thoſe who have hemmed themſelves in between ſuch difficulties, that they cannot ſtir either one way or the other. This hath ſometimes been the caſe even of miniſters, who have negociated their country into ſo untoward a ſituation, that peace and war are equally dangerous and impracticable.

Theſe proverbs, amongſt a thouſand more, contain a little compendium or epitome of our natural and political conſtitution. There is indeed a good deal of ſatire, and ſome of it not very delicate, mixed up with them, but ſuch as is founded in good ſenſe, and agreeable to the ſpirit of a rough and free people.

A Native of Britain.

ANECDOTE *of the late* DAVID HUME, *Eſq;*

SOON after his being diſappointed in his views upon the profeſſorſhip of moral philoſophy, he was choſen by the dean and faculty of advocates principal keeper of the advocates' library at Edinburgh. This indeed was in a great meaſure a ſinecure, the chief care and management of the books being left to the under-keeper, who was at that time Mr Walter Goodall, afterwards pretty well known by the tracts which he publiſhed relative to Mary queen of Scots, and to the hiſtory and antiquities of Scotland.

A rencounter which happened between Mr Hume and Mr Goodall, as it is ſomewhat curious, or at leaſt ludicrous, may not, perhaps, be unentertaining to your readers.—While Watty, as he was familiarly called, and good-naturedly ſuffered himſelf to be called, by his acquaintances, was compoſing his treatiſe concerning queen Mary, he one day, while ſitting in the library, became drowſy, and laying down his head upon his manuſcripts, in that poſture fell aſleep. Mr Hume entering the library, and finding Watty in that condition, ſtepped up in a gentle pace, and laying his mouth to Watty's ear, roared out with the voice of a Stentor, that queen Mary was a whore, and had murdered her huſband. Watty, not knowing whether it was a dream or a real adventure, or whether the voice proceeded from a ghoſt or a living creature, ſuddenly ſtarted up, and before he was awake, or his eyes well opened, he ſprung upon Mr Hume, and ſeizing him by the throat, puſhed him to the farther end of the library, exclaiming all the while, that he was ſome d——n'd Preſbyterian parſon, who was come to murder the character of queen Mary, as his predeceſſors had contributed to murder her perſon. Mr Hume uſed to tell this ſtory with much glee and humour; and Watty, who, in every thing but enthuſiaſm for queen Mary, was really a very ſenſible man, was wont to acknowledge the truth of it with the greateſt frankneſs.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

CELLA PAUPERTATIS, *Carmen* ELEGIACUM.

PRIMA fuit noſtræ paupertas incola terræ,
Horrida, et incultis ruſtica nympha comis.
Nec tamen infœlix; nivei cui copia lactis,
Deque cavo trunco mella fuere cibus:
Alma cui tellus natos ſine ſemine fructus
Præbuit, et facili poma legenda manu.
Qui cadit irriguus ſcopuli de vertice rivus
Leniit ardentem ſole calente ſitim.
Improbus at poſtquam ſtygio de gurgite Mammon,
Prodierat gemmis lucidus ac opibus;
Cinctus et argenti nitidis, aurique lamellis,
Territa paupertas fugit in antra foror.
Tum gemit infœlix, durus namque omnia Mammon
Dicitur infeſta corripuiſſe manu.
Ilicis immites glandes ſolum ille reliquit,
Edita ſilveſtri prunaque acerba ſolo.
Paſcua dum Mammon lætis circumdata campis
Hæc humilem cellam duraque ſaxa colet.
Eſt locus obſcurus rigidi prope culmina montis,
Quem tantum frutices et levis herba tegit.
Nil ibi quod natura petit, non arbor amica
Cernitur immitem tollere nata Famem.
Gramen enim ſolum tenues naſcuntur & herbæ
Et fluit irriguo fonte perennis aqua.
Huc fugiens fratrem ſe territa nympha recepit,
Abdidit, ac alto corpus inane ſpecu.
Hic fame tabentes artus et frigore fletu
Irrigat, et mœſtis concutit antra ſonis,
Barbarus interea Mammon neque porrigit uvam,
Nec minimam miſeræ præbet avarus opem.
Hic ego dum meditor, caſu deductus iniquo
Abdita ſub terra lapſus in antra cado.
Hic me paupertas rebus ſolamen in arctis
Jamdudum invitum detinuit comitem:
Candida bis Phœbe creſcentem texuit orbem,
Et toties radios condidit illa ſuos.
Incluſus miſera dum cogor vivere cella;
Inficit atra fames membra, vaporque loci.
Lumina torpeſcunt, macies in corpore toto eſt;
Jam titubant greſſus, et tremor oſſa quatit,
Me premit et morbus, premit heu me tarda ſenectus;
Vix calamum teneo deficiente manu.
Quare ego Pierides colui, doctoſque ſophiſtas?
Quid ſchola, quid calamus, quid ſtudiiſſe juvat? (tro?
Num minus infami teneor modo conditus antro
Nec quiſquam miſero præbit amicus opem.
Hei mihi mors tantum preſſis ſolatia rebus
Afferet, et ſuperi qui regit aſtra poli.
Hæc ego. Calliope contra, ſors altera, dixit,
Speranda eſt rebus ſemper, amice, tuis.
Nam ſi ſæva maris variis ciet unda procellas,
Inſequitur velis aura ſecunda tuis.
Seu te velle Dei, ſeu caſus in antra tulerunt,
Tu ſimili poteris forte venire foras. W. J.

[*A tranſlation in our next.*]

To HOPE. *By* —— DAVIS, *Eſq;*

O THOU whoſe ſweetly pleaſing ſway,
Our willing hearts with joy obey,
O Hope! my pray'r attend:
The pray'r of one whoſe tortur'd heart,
Pierc'd by Affliction's ſharpeſt dart,
Finds thee its only friend.

'Midſt all the pangs which rend my breaſt
And long have robb'd my ſoul of reſt,
On thee I ſtill rely;
For Heav'n in mercy ſent thee here,
And bade thee wipe the bitter tear
That ſtreams from Sorrow's eye.

O'er all mankind thy care extends;
Thy balm the guilty wretch defends,
From madneſs and deſpair;
To ſtop ſtern Juſtice in her courſe,
Thou teacheſt him the wondrous force,
Of penitence and pray'r.

Virtue by tyrant Pow'r oppreſs'd,
Friendleſs, afflicted, and diſtreſs'd,
By thee is taught to riſe;
And, conſcious of her heav'nly birth,
To ſcorn the narrow bounds of earth,
And claim her kindred ſkies.

'Tis thine to pierce the diſmal gloom,
Where Sorrow weeps o'er Friendſhip's tomb,
And hail that happy ſhore,
Where Pleaſure ſhall for ever reign,
Where virtuous Love unites again,
And friends ſhall part no more.

'Midſt tort'ring racks and ſcorching fires,
The hero whom thy voice inſpires,
In conſcious virtue brave,
Triumphantly reſigns his breath,
And plucks the ſting from vanquiſh'd death,
The vict'ry from the grave.

Oh may thy kind, thy gentle pow'r,
Suſtain me in that dreadful hour,
When Nature ſhrinks aghaſt!
When Death's cold hand thoſe eyes ſhall cloſe,
And my long pilgrimage of woes
Shall have an end at laſt.

When the pale lamp of life expires,
When Reaſon calm, and Fancy's fires
Have left my panting breaſt;
Oh ſtill my lovely Cherub ſtay,
And bear my parting ſoul away,
To realms of endleſs reſt!

An ELEGY *on Mrs* BOWES*. *By Lady* M. W. MONTAGUE.

HAIL, happy Bride! for thou art truly bleſt,
Three months of pleaſure crown'd with endleſs reſt!
Merit like your's was Heaven's peculiar care;
You lov'd—you taſted happineſs ſincere:
The ſweets of love to you were only ſhown,
The ſure, ſucceeding bitter dregs unknown.
You had not yet the fatal change deplor'd,
The tender lover for th' imperious lord;
Nor felt the pangs that jealous fondneſs brings,
Nor wept the coldneſs from poſſeſſion ſprings:
Above your ſex, diſtinguiſh'd in your fate,
You truſted, yet experienc'd no deceit.
Swift were your hours, and wing'd with pleaſure flew:
No vain repentance gave a ſigh to you:
And, if ſuperior bliſs Heav'n can beſtow,
With fellow-angels you enjoy it now.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

HERMAGORAS; *Or, The* PEDANT. *A* CHARACTER.

HERMAGORAS, ſo form'd to rule,
Obtains at laſt a public ſchool.
Here, and throughout his native village,
Famous for paſture and for tillage,
He's thought a miracle of learning,
Quick penetration, and diſcerning;
Learning not of the modern kind,
So much corrupted, ſo refin'd:
No; he admires the Gothic ages,
Greece, and the oriental ſages,
Where wiſdom, eloquence, and pleaſure,
Untold an inexhauſtleſs treaſure.
For now, in our degen'rate days,
Genius ſheds no peculiar rays:
'Tis true ſome o'er the midnight lamp
Pretend the true ſublime to ſtamp;
Others aſſume the critic's file,
Collect, tranſlate, nay, even compile.
But what! they only ſcribble o'er
Things wrote a thouſand years before.
Excuſe, forgive me if I hate
Aught bord'ring on the modern date,
For can even J——n's excellence
Compare to Cicero's eloquence?
Who ſo ambitious dares aſpire
Promethean-like, to Homer's fire?

Thus with enthuſiaſtic ſpirit,
Thund'ring againſt the modern merit,
Affecting, too, the frown auſtere,
Plato's long beard, and Zeno's air,
He greatly occupies his ſtation,
And earns a learned reputation.

Few, few indeed ſo clearly tell
How Atreus, how Egyſtus fell,
Or with what veſſels men and oars
Ulyſſes ſought his native ſhores.
How, glorying from triumphant war,
Seſoſtris hurl'd the king-yok'd car:
How from great Julius Pompey fled,
How Caſſius plann'd, how Brutus bled,
Yet ſtrange! if brought on modern things
Unknown are both our ſtates and kings.
Theſe, theſe are hardly worth diſcerning
By men of genius, taſte, and—learning!
Meantime minutely he inſiſts
For hours on oriental liſts:
Nocſnemordach, Apronat,
Sardanaplus, Herigabat,
He knows far better, take my word,
Than George the Firſt, or George the Third.

Tho' his home footſteps never ſtray'd
Beyond his home-wrought native ſhade,
Aſk him where antient BABEL ſtood,
Who carv'd the ſtone, who hew'd the wood?
Aſk him, what god or goddeſs hurl'd
Briareus to the other world?
Aſk him, who firſt aſſum'd to reign,
Or ſtain'd with blood the purple plain?
Aſk him, who firſt with dextrous art
Wield'd the fierce lance and glitt'ring dart?
Who fought, who fell in days of yore?
He anſwers all,—nay, ten times more.
Since our degenerated days
Shine 'neath Refinement's poliſh'd rays,
And ſince Politeneſs, and the Graces,
Adorn our moſt exalted places,
(Without diſputing this or that
About Rome, or the Grecian ſtate,
Whether Politeneſs was in faſhion,
Or ill-bred Manners rul'd the nation,)
We need not ſtare, nor wonder why
He's ſo unſocial and ſo dry;
So vain, ſo formal, and ſo ſerious,
To render ev'ry word myſterious:
Nor need we ſtart, nor need we wonder
At his calumniating thunder.
When modern ſons, and modern merit
Fire his enthuſiaſtic ſpirit;
For tho' he earns a learned name—
The ign'rant always will declaim.

CHARACTERISTICUS.

EPITAPH *in* Halifax *Church.*

HERE lies interr'd a zealous grave divine,
Meek, loving, lov'd, only with ſin at ſtrife:
Who heard him, ſaw life in his doctrine ſhine,
Who ſaw him, heard ſound doctrine in his life;
And in the ſame cold bed here reſts his wife:
Nor are they dead, but ſleep; for he ne'er dies,
That waits for his ſweet Saviour's word, *Ariſe.*

* *Eldeſt wife to Mr Bowes, father to the preſent Lady Strathmore.*

HISTORY OF THE TIMES.

SEPT. 25.—*to* OCT. 3.

RUSSIA.

Peterſburgh, Aug. 20.

"THE following circular letter has been ſent by the partners of a new houſe eſtabliſhed at Conſtantinople, to all their friends and correſpondents:

"Under the immediate protection of the empreſs, we have eſtabliſhed a Ruſſian houſe of trade at Conſtantinople, under the firm of Siednef, James, and Co. We take the liberty to adviſe you of it, and to make you a tender of our ſervices, aſſuring you, at the ſame times, of our zeal upon all occaſions for the intereſt of our friends. Beſides the affairs of government, we have a capital that will enable us to ſerve our friends agreeable to their wiſhes, and let them partake of great advantages, the Ruſſian nation being exempted from the duty of Miſtria, of one and a half per cent. which other countries pay at Conſtantinople; and having beſides the ſole privilege of trading upon the Black Sea, we can ſend goods on board our own ſhips, either into Ruſſia, Perſia, or Tartary. The ſieur Eton has acquired a perfect knowledge of the commerce of Europe, Turkey and Perſia, having been ſome years at the head of the Dutch ſettlement at Baſſora till the troubles of that government began: the ſieur John James is thoroughly verſed in the Turkey trade, and has been ſettled at Conſtantinople ſix years; and the ſieur John Siednef, a native of Ruſſia, is perfect maſter of the interior trade of this country.

"In a few days we ſhall ſet out for Conſtantinople; and, upon our arrival there, will not fail to give you every neceſſary information relative to trade. In the mean time we beg leave to repeat the offer of our ſervices, &c.

Signed { WILLIAM ETON. JOHN JAMES. JOHN SIEDNEF."

"Some other perſons of conſequence are ſaid to be concerned in this houſe, and among them Mr Mocenigo, an Italian, who is to take upon him the care of the Italian commiſſions, and is appointed by the empreſs of Ruſſia her commiſſary-general in Italy, with a ſalary of 2000 roubles a-year, beſides great advantages from the commiſſions that are to paſs through his hands."

POLAND.

Dantzick, Sept. 3. "Trade in general is in a very languiſhing condition here, except that of timber, which is briſk on account of the orders from England and France. There is ſo little corn imported, and the price ſo much lowered, that what ſold for 440 and 450 florins, now ſells for 350. As it is probable the price will be ſtill lower, our merchants have determined to ſend their corn to Amſterdam, which will be of great advantage to Holland. Rye is at preſent 210 and 240 florins per laſt, and the freight to America is about 15 florins, and three quarters of 16 and a half Dutch money per laſt."

Hague, Sept. 17. "They write from Warſaw, that, on the 29th ult. his Poliſh majeſty, in an occaſional ſpeech in the aſſembly of the diet, made uſe of the following expreſſions:—'I am a 'friend to the empreſs of Ruſſia: I am 'not aſhamed to declare it to this aſ-'ſembly; and any honeſt man among 'you, if he would but give himſelf the 'trouble to think, and recollect the dif-'ferent diſturbances, confuſions, and 'horrid events of this country, he will 'have ſufficient reaſon to conſider the 'empreſs of Ruſſia as a glorious deliver-'rer of this country. The utmoſt zeal 'for my country prompts me again to 'declare my friendſhip and gratitude to 'that illuſtrious princeſs, &c."—Here he was interrupted by an univerſal confuſion among the ſenators; and, notwithſtanding the royal preſence, it was greatly feared it would come to bloodſhed among the hot-headed partizans; but his majeſty began to ſpeak again, and addreſſed them in the moſt tender and pathetic manner, which ſilenced them, and at laſt drew tears from the eyes of the auditors."

GERMANY.

Vienna, Sept. 12. "The emperor, accompanied by the grand duke of Tuſcany, in making a viſit to the hoſpitals at an unexpected time, as is uſual with him, perceived a little door in a dark corner, which he ordered to be opened; but he was obeyed with ſo much reluctance,

that it raiſed his curioſity: Upon going in, he deſcended into a kind of dungeon, where he found a female, rather young and handſome, covered with rags, and laid upon ſtraw. The monarch was very much ſurpriſed and affected at this ſight, and ſoon interrogating the unfortunate perſon, ſhe anſwered with a noble air, which neither her misfortunes nor her ſufferings could deprive her of:—'Sire, I am a woman of family, and 'have the honour to be your ſubject. I 'have long ſuffered ſhame and miſery in 'this place, without deſerving that dou'ble puniſhment. When I was twenty 'years of age I had the misfortune to 'pleaſe the baron de B——: his love 'was not honourable: he only ſought 'to gratify his unlawful paſſion; but I 'would not hear of his addreſſes with'out his marrying me, which he did, 'and I brought him three children, to 'whoſe fortunes I am a ſtranger. Be'fore I was placed here I heard he was 'in Moravia, where he has married ano'ther wife; but I would not complain. 'This new lady, uneaſy and ſuſpicious, 'perſuaded him to ſacrifice me; and I 'was ſeized one night, and confined 'here, where I have been for ſeveral 'years. I ſee your majeſty deigns to 'take my cauſe to heart, and will looſe 'my fetters; but, Sire, I have three 'ſons, and if the ſhame of my huſband 'ſhould be made public, it will retort 'upon them; let me therefore beſeech 'you to ſpare him for their ſakes; and, 'if I may requeſt one favour more, deign 'to inſure me an aſylum in ſome con'vent, and that I may again preſs to my 'boſom thoſe children whom I ſuckled." The emperor willingly granted the lady her requeſt, has cauſed the young barons to be found, and has taken them under his own care: The ſecond wife of the baron is puniſhed with perpetual impriſonment, himſelf exiled, and all his eſtates forfeited to his children."

HOLLAND.

Amſterdam, Sept. 19. "The agents of the Engliſh Weſt-India merchants here have lately offered a premium from 18 to 20 per cent. on ſeveral veſſels bound for London from the Weſt-Indies; but our under writers actually refuſed it; and indeed they begin to ſcruple inſuring any veſſel bound to and from any part of the world. The reaſon aſſigned is, the profound ſecrecy in which the Britiſh government keeps the American affairs, which makes the people on this ſide the water conjecture that matters have not altogether a favourable turn. Some houſes here, but many more at Hamburgh, have loſt immenſe ſums on thoſe Weſt-Indiamen that have lately been taken by the Americans. They ſigned the policies about four months ago, and did not receive above ſix to eight per cent. as premium.

"The reports which have of late been ſpread abroad concerning the differences between Spain and Portugal to be amicably ſettled, ſeem to have taken their origin from the Engliſh news-papers, but we are ſorry to find intirely the contrary. The Portugueſe miniſter at Madrid, though he has followed the court with the reſt of the foreign ambaſſadors to Ildephonſe, yet we are aſſured that he is not permitted to appear at court. Don Cavallos is publicly ſtiled general-lieutenant of the South-American expedition againſt the Portugueſe; and Don Gaſton, who arrived at Cadiz about the beginning of laſt month with his ſquadron, ſailed back towards the mouth of the Tagus, with poſitive orders not to admit any Portugueſe armed veſſel of any ſize to go to ſea; ſo that we now expect every day to hear of a ſea-fight between the Portugueſe and the ſquadron of Don Gaſton."

FRANCE.

Verſailles, Sept. 7. "On the 29th of laſt month, the chevalier Grenier, lieutenant of the king's ſhips, and member of the academy of marines, who was employed, by order of his majeſty, to make diſcoveries in the Indian ſeas, hath had the honour to be preſented to the king by M. de Sartine, miniſter and ſecretary of ſtate of the marine department, and to deliver to his majeſty the charts which he hath drawn from the Archipelago to the north of the iſle of France, in which are traced the new routs which he has diſcovered, to ſail from that iſland to every part of Aſia, and for which the old ones are abandoned, on account of the many advantages united in the new, as well with reſpect to the diſpoſition of the winds, as to the ſafety and ſhortneſs of the paſſages, which will be near two months for the worſt ſailing veſſels in what is called *the contra-*

ry ſeaſon.—His majeſty, pleaſed with the zeal and talents which this officer hath ſhewn in a circumſtance ſo intereſting to navigation, hath been pleaſed to recompenſe him, by granting him the croſs of St Louis, and a penſion of 1200 livres."

SPAIN.

Cadiz, Aug. 27. "The frigate Roſario is arrived from Carthagena and the Havannah, with a regiſter of a million and a half; as is from Porto Rico the frigate Emerald, with the news of the ſafe arrival there of all our flota in forty-ſix days from Cadiz, and of its having proceeded to Vera Cruz, after having received its water."

Hague, Sept. 17. "By yeſterday's Spaniſh letters we learn, that the marquis of Caſatilli ſailed from Cadiz, on the 24th ult. with eight ſhips of the line, eight frigates, two fire-ſhips, and ſeveral ſmall veſſels. He was to be joined from Carthagena with four ſhips of the line, four frigates, and two bombardiers; and from Ferrol with three ſhips of the line, three frigates, two bombardiers, and ſome packet-boats: and, as it is too late in the ſeaſon for an expedition to a remote part of the world, and it is not in the leaſt probable that it is meant for exerciſing the marines, we firmly believe the marquis has poſitive orders to ſail for the Tagus, and to attack the Portugueſe in Europe."

AFRICA.

Tangier, Aug. 24. "A Dutch ſhip, mounting 18 guns and 25 men, richly laden from the coaſt of Coromandel, was lately taken by two of the emperor of Morocco's frigates, of 24 guns and 150 men each, which had ſailed a few days before them to Larache, and carried into the port of Mogadore. Two Algerine xebecs ſailed about the beginning of this month from Algiers: they made a deſcent on the iſland of Majorca, and carried off from thence ſeveral perſons whom they found in the fields at night. The xebecs then proceeded to the coaſt of Valencia, where they took a Neapolitan polacre from Oran, a Genoeſe polacre from Marſeilles, laden with corn, and ſix Spaniſh ſatees, with great part of their crews, all which they conducted to Algiers without moleſtation. The Spaniſh xebecs and gallies, employed to ſcour the coaſts, were in the harbour of Malaga and Carthagena at that time."

WEST-INDIES.

Copy of a ſecond ADDRESS *of the* Houſe *of* Aſſembly *of* BARBADOES, *tranſmitted to* George Walker, Eſq; *their agent at* London, *and which has been laid, by Lord* George Germaine, *before his* Majeſty, *who has referred it to the* Board *of* Treaſury.

To the KING'S *Moſt Excellent* MAJESTY.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

"WE your majeſty's moſt faithful ſubjects, the repreſentatives of this your majeſty's ancient and ever loyal colony, humbly beg leave again to throw ourſelves at your royal feet, deeply impreſſed with the ſenſe of your majeſty's moſt gracious anſwer to our late addreſs, that "your majeſty would be glad to do 'any thing in your power for the advan'tage of your good ſubjects of Barba'does;" yet in an equal degree mortified with the unjuſt and cruel attempt of your governor, to fruſtrate ſuch favourable intentions towards us in your majeſty, by repreſenting that "the mea'ſure was a meaſure of the aſſembly; 'and the diſtreſs was not ſo great as it 'appeared to the aſſembly." But, God forbid! that your majeſty ſhould be influenced by any repreſentation of the condition of your people, contrary to that which has been humbly offered by the choſen guardians of their moſt valuable intereſts, who muſt feel immediately with them, no leſs than for them, in every critical conjuncture, and who are on every account the beſt qualified to tranſmit the real ſtate of their grievances to the royal ear; and as a further title to your majeſty's attention in the preſent inſtance, in preference to any other claim to it from an oppoſite report, we can appeal, as to the cleareſt evidence, to the melancholy event of things, which juſtifies our timely application to your majeſty; for who will deny the alarming ſcarcity that has ſince been felt? the extreme difficulty with which our numerous poor white inhabitants at this time ſupport themſelves and families; and withal the great diſtreſs of many of the proprietors of plantations, more eſpecially in thoſe parts of the iſland that have always depended upon the grain of North America for their ſubſiſtence, to

keep their ſlaves from periſhing for want of the accuſtomed food! Nay, as a further juſtification ſtill of the aſſembly's early apprehenſions on ſo intereſting a point, we can appeal even to our governor himſelf, whether his excellency himſelf was not made ſenſible of the ſcarcity of all kinds of proviſions amongſt us, that followed in no long time after our addreſs? And was not then pleaſed, in one auſpicious moment of his humanity and ſympathetic tenderneſs, to apply by letter to the commander of your majeſty's ſhips on this ſtation for our relief? Which was in granting paſſports to veſſels coming up to this iſland with any North American produce, that ſhould be found amongſt the Leeward Iſlands, for our ſupport, in order to ſecure thoſe veſſels and their cargoes from the confiſcations to which they were liable by the late prohibitory act. Moſt unhappily, however, this deſign has proved abortive, even with the admiral's concurrent good diſpoſition to aſſiſt us. He indeed conſented to the requeſt, but fearing an abuſe of the indulgence in the hands of private adventurers, he recommended an aſſociation of the inhabitants to be formed, for the purpoſe of carrying on this trade, and commiſſioning veſſels, which, under the ſanction of ſuch commiſſions, ſhould receive the licences that were required. But the eſtabliſhment of ſuch an aſſociated company, to engage in that traffic with ſucceſs, demanded a capital, an immediate depoſit of ſome thouſand pounds; and ſuch was the reduced ſtate of our finances, after a ſeries of unproſperous years from the calamities of our ſoil, and now burdened with an unuſual load of expences for the ſupport of our white and black families, as well as for other articles neceſſary to the works of our plantations, and the packages of our principal manufacture, on the other hand ſuffering a reduction in the price of one valuable part of that manufacture, our rum, large quantities of it remaining unſold by our being cut off from our former chief market for this commodity: Under ſuch accumulated diſadvantages, and many of us too loaded with debts, beſides the calls of our government and parochial taxes, we could not ſpare a fund ſufficient even for ſuch a ſalutary ſcheme. From hence then, your majeſty's unfortunate ſubjects are ſtill left to the uncertain ſcanty ſupplies that have been for ſome time paſt imported into the iſland; and as the price of theſe, eſpecially in the eſſential article of food for our ſlaves, ſtill keep riſing upon us, we are alſo left with little or no hope of any more plentiful reſource, but on the contrary have every cauſe to fear a moſt intolerable ſcarcity.

"Under theſe afflicting circumſtances then, too awful in their nature for us to diſſemble with; for us indeed, on whom your majeſty has conferred the honour of that endearing appellation of *good* ſubjects; an honour, which as we have had the happineſs to attain, ſo ſhall it be our higheſt ambition to preſerve: We look up, even upon the ground of this moſt gracious condeſcenſion, with a renewed confidence, to your majeſty for ſome ſpeedy and effectual interpoſition in our favour; humbly beſeeching your majeſty, the father of your people, to avert thoſe evils which hang over us, and which, in their leaſt formidable appearance, threaten us with the ruin of our private fortunes; but when reflected upon, through all their horrible and not unnatural conſequences, denounce no leſs than the deſtruction of our colony.

By order of the Houſe,

JOHN GAY ALLEYNE, Speaker."

Houſe of Aſſembly, July 9. 1776.

AMERICA.

Boſton, July 18. "We learn from ſome of the officers on board thoſe Britiſh tranſports which have been lately taken and brought in here, that the violent and oppreſſive meaſures carrying on againſt us are abhorred by the nation in general, and that moſt of the ſoldiers, and a majority of the officers, act againſt us with the utmoſt unwillingneſs and regret; the former for fear of being ſhot, the latter of loſing their bread. We have no enemies in Great Britain and Ireland, but a few abandoned miniſters, a corrupt majority in both houſes, a ſwarm of rapacious contractors, and ſome needy place-hunters. But we have another ſpecies of enemies more contemptible and inexcuſeable than any of the reſt, becauſe their folly and depravity admits of no excuſe. Theſe are a parcel of purſe-proud upſtarts, who have either by gripping or accident acquired large fortunes in houſes, lands, and the funds, and are ſuch egregious dupes as to believe, that all the late infernal attempts to oppreſs and enſlave us, have been made, in order

to lighten their taxes, and increaſe their trade; whereas the wretched ideots might perceive, if they could look as far as their noſes, that the ſole view of the junto is to rob us of what little money we have left, in order to add to the miniſterial fund for corruption, and them of the ſhadow of liberty, as ſoon as they have compleated our ſlavery; yet, notwithſtanding this ungrateful and unnatural combination, as we know the bulk of the nation to be honeſt, though inſulted and oppreſſed, we will, as ſoon as we have fully ſecured and eſtabliſhed our own liberty and independence, aſſiſt our much-injured brethren."

New-York, July 24. "We hear that gen. Carleton is indefatigable in tranſporting ſome large veſſels to the lakes, in order to protect his troops on their paſſage to our back ſettlements, where, according to the plan concerted, they are to make a diverſion in favour of gen. Howe; but if he ſhould, contrary to all human probability, be able to overpower our armed veſſels, and recover Crown Point and Ticonderoga, the ſeaſon will be ſo far advanced before they can penetrate the province, that their ſurviving friends will have made their eſcape to England, for Halifax will be too cold winter-quarters for them; and they (Carleton's army) will be cut off to a man, if they don't ſurrender at diſcretion.

"Their excellencies the continental congreſs have reſolved, that, as ſoon as they have ſufficiently reduced and humbled their inſolent, tyrannical, and ungrateful invaders, they will take under their protection, and admit into the number of their united provinces, Newfoundland and its appurtenances, and alſo the Britiſh ſugar-iſlands. They have alſo in contemplation the reſtoring of liberty to their oppreſſed brethren in Ireland; but it is feared that their great diſtance from America, and their being ſo near England, will deprive them of that bleſſing for ſome years.

"Notwithſtanding the war, great attention is given to eſtabliſhing the linen and woolen manufactures throughout the provinces. We have all the materials in the greateſt abundance, and are ſo fully convinced of the neceſſity for exerting ourſelves, that we have no doubt in a few years of being able to underſell Great Britain and Ireland in all the markets of Europe.—*Pitiful puffs theſe!*

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of Virginia, to his friend in London, July 20. 1776.

"Melancholy and uneaſineſs are viſible in moſt countenances, and happy is the man that can ſecure his effects from the ravages of the provincials, and the people who call themſelves friends to the American cauſe. Tobacco and proviſions are exceſſive dear, and many very creditable families reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs. From whence then is to come our relief? It cannot be effected without a ſpeedy reconciliation with Great Britain, which there is but little hopes of at preſent, the congreſs being for independency; when, through their obſtinacy, they have entirely ruined America, then perhaps they will too late wiſh they had long ſince complied with the meaſures adopted by the Engliſh parliament."

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, from Mr Gibbs, commander of his majeſty's brig the Oracle, July 24.

"I am ſorry to inform you my veſſel was taken on the 25th ult. near Antigua, after a ſmart action of four glaſſes, by the provincial privateer the May-Flower, and brought into this port. I am myſelf on the parole, but my men are confined, and are well uſed. The Americans will in a few months have really a powerful navy. They have at preſent in commiſſion thirteen heavy ſhips, foreign built, from 50 to 64 guns each, three of which are in this port, almoſt ready to put to ſea. The Oracle the Americans are going to make a privateer of, and I imagine will have great part of my ſeamen to man her, they having been already aſked the queſtion, and the major part of them ſeem inclinable to enter into the provincial ſervice."

Extract of a letter to a capital houſe in the city, dated Nantz in France, Sept. 7.

"This day arrived here four large ſhips laden with wheat and flour, which ſailed from Philadelphia the 8th of Auguſt; at which time they had received no intelligence of any attempt having been made at New-York; nor that the army on Staten Iſland had been reinforced by the arrival of any conſiderable force; but the provincial troops, aſſiſted by ſeveral able foreign engineers were putting the laſt-mentioned city, as well as ſeveral other places, into the beſt ſtate of defence they were capable of. That the congreſs had given orders to their

ſhips to make prizes of all Portugueſe veſſels which they might meet with, conſidering his moſt faithful majeſty's diploma as a declaration of war. Five days after the above ſhips ſailed, they fell in with and were convoyed to the coaſt of France by three American frigates, which had taken ſeveral valuable prizes, and amongſt them a ſhip from Brazil to Liſbon, very richly laden, which made a deſperate reſiſtance, but was at length overpowered and ſent to Philadelphia; they had alſo picked up ſome ſtraggling tranſports with troops, ammunition, and other warlike ſtores; but we have not yet been able to know the particulars, which you may expect in our next; in genetal, they ſay that the provincials are in high ſpirits, and wiſh to come to blows with the European troops, relying as much upon their courage and the ſkill of their commanders, as upon the vaſt ſuperiority of their numbers."

Extract of a letter from on board the Lonſdale tranſport, capt. Grayſon, arrived at Corke from New-York.

"On the 15th of Auguſt, when we left New-York, gen. Clinton and Sir Peter Parker had joined the army there. The reinforcements by gen. Clinton amounted to upwards of 3000 regulars, beſides a battalion raiſed of Americans; and the army, before they joined, were ſaid to be 31,000 effective men, or men in their ſhoes, as the military term it. The provincials are ſaid to be upwards of 40,000; but I ſuppoſe they reckon all their ragamuffins, and then indeed I don't doubt it; otherwiſe I cannot believe that they have a body of regular troops amounting to that number. They told us that a quantity of combuſtibles was in New-York, in order to ſet it on fire ſhould our army be ſucceſsful in its attack on the provincials, as they are reſolved that only the ſpot where the town ſtood ſhould fall into our hands. Staten Iſland is ſo full of red-coats, that it looks like a field of poppies in flower. Many inconveniences are experienced, as may very naturally be ſuppoſed from the aſſemblage of ſo large a body of men: nevertheleſs every precaution is taken to remedy them as much as poſſible.—There was a talk, when we came away, that an attack was intended in a few days; but it was all conjecture, as the Howes are very ſecret in their intentions; and, if ſuch a thing was intended, I believe they would hardly make it known, at leaſt not long before they put it in practice. Our paſſage, I think, may be reckoned a tolerable good one, as we left New-York the 15th of Auguſt, and arrived here the 16th of September, in company with the Lord Lewiſham, Hudſon."

Extract of a letter from Serjeant Stirling in the 42d regiment, dated Staten Iſland, July 30.

"We joined Lord Howe's fleet at Halifax ſix weeks after we left Greenock. Two of our frigates are now gone up the river above New-York, and have taken 30 veſſels loaded with proviſions for the Americans; and the other day ten more were brought in here. I believe in a ſhort time they will not have a canoe left.

"The rebels are daily deſerting and ſwimming acroſs the river to us with their arms ſlung on their back; I believe againſt winter they will be ſtarving for want of food and cloathing. Capt. Smith and his company of the 42d, and part of the 71ſt regiments, are priſoners at New-York, and uſed badly becauſe they won't learn the rebels their exerciſe. Capt. Smith was ordered to drink confuſion to the *King*, upon which he moſt loyally, and with a ſpirit deſpiſing all their threats, drank *Succeſs to the King and his arms both by ſea and land.*

"The Heſſians are arrived, and appear to be a ſet of good ſoldiers; the Yankees now begin to loſe heart when they ſee ſuch an army coming againſt them. We have ſent them a flag of truce, but there is no regard paid to it. The harveſt is over here, and the weather exceedingly warm. I hope when matters are ſettled, I ſhall have a plantation of my own here."

Extract of a letter from on board the Boreas, dated Aug. 14.

"We arrived at New-York the 1ſt inſtant, in company with Sir Peter Parker's fleet, from South Carolina, and found lord Howe arrived. Our troops, to the amount of 13,000, encamped on Staten Iſland, where they got plenty of freſh beef, vegetables, and almoſt every other convenience heretofore ſo much wanted, and were in good health and ſpirits. The rebels have declared independency, and fortified New-York ſtrongly, obliged the inhabitants to evacuate the town, and dwell in tents in the country, and the armed rebels from Connecticut, Boſton, and Rhode Iſland have taken poſſeſſion of it, and more are ex-

camped about two miles above, as alſo on Long Iſland under gen. Waſhington. The Phœnix and Roſe paſſed up by the town (to command a bridge which communicated from the iſland on which New-York ſtands with the continent, about fifteen miles above) through a very ſmart fire, which hurt nobody.

"Two or three flags of truce from lord and gen. Howe have been ſent up (but the contents a ſecret) to New-York; col. Paterſon (with the laſt) was received at the water-ſide in great ſtate by gen. Waſhington, introduced to his colonels, and through the ſtreets, lined with rebels, conducted to the council-hall, and was told by Mr Waſhington, that our ſhips which had paſſed up had received no damage, and made many prizes. It is ſaid, preparations are made to burn the town when not tenible, as they have ſent up fire-ſtages to burn the two ſhips."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 21.—*to* 28.

Letters of undoubted authority from Paris aſſure us, that the greateſt military preparations are now going on in ſeveral parts of that kingdom. Germain, miniſter of war, has ordered forty thouſand men to be drawn from the interior parts of the kingdom towards the weſtern ſea-coaſts, twenty-two thouſand of which, it is ſaid, are deſtined to hold themſelves in readineſs to march to the confines of Spain, to replace an equal number of Spaniſh troops, which are intended for ſome ſecret expedition.

We are informed that a conſiderable ſum has been offered by the court of France to the chevalier d'Eon, upon condition he will deliver up a number of letters, which he received upon a variety of intereſting ſubjects from his late majeſty Lewis the XVth, with whom he conſtantly correſponded. The chevalier, however, for particular reaſons, has not accepted the propoſal, which has given great offence to the French miniſtry.

A letter from Antigua ſays, "Yeſterday five perſons, friends of the congreſs at Philadelphia, were taken out of Gray's tavern, in this town, and carried to goal, for ſpeaking treaſon, and aiding and abetting the cauſe of the ſaid congreſs. I cannot ſay, we have a great many perſons of ſuch principles in this iſland, but all the adherents of the congreſs here are involved in debt to Great Britain, and an independency will pay the whole for all of them."

A letter from Barbadoes, dated July 26. 1776, ſays, "I am ſorry to tell you, that we are in a miſerable condition for want of proviſions for the ſupport of ourſelves and ſlaves; however, it has pleaſed God to ſend us lately ſome rains, and hope we may be able to ſave our crop, and grow a few proviſions for the ſupport of ourſelves and negroes."

A merchant in the city has received a letter from Jamaica by the way of France. The following is an authentic copy:—"Sunday morning, the 14th of July, at ſun-riſe, one of his majeſty's frigates of 32 guns, the Nero brigantine of 18, the Cæſar brig of 16, and the Hawke ſchooner of 12 guns, in the ſervice of government, fell in with, off the Triangles, five American privateers; the latter at firſt crouded all the ſail they could to get away, but being foul, and finding the king's veſſels gained upon them, and judging, that to continue the retreat would ſacrifice their ſquadron, they formed into a line, hauled up their courſes, and ſeemed determined to hazard an engagement; about ſeven o'clock the Engliſh ſquadron got along ſide (within piſtol ſhot) of the rebels, and received their fire, which was inſtantly returned, when the engagement became general, and was diſputed with the greateſt bravery till ten o'clock, when one of the privateers diſmaſted the frigate, and by that means ſtruck her pendant, till then flying; however, ſhe gave her antagoniſt the whole of her muſquetry, fore and aft, and dropped aſtern. The reaſon of the frigate only returning her muſquetry, was owing to her men having all run away from their guns, terrified at the havock made amongſt them by the provincial veſſels. The Nero, Cæſar, and Hawke, feebly ſupported the action till near eleven, when the latter veſſel being almoſt ſhattered to pieces, was obliged to ſtrike; then the American ſquadron, with their prize, proceeded on their voyage. The other veſſels are arrived at Port Royal in a moſt miſerable condition, and with the loſs of a great part of their crews."

A letter from St Kitt's, dated July 31, ſays, "A North American veſſel was chaſed by one of our men of war under Martinico, and boarded under the land.

Forty of the man of war's men were coming on board, at which time the crew deserted the veſſel; previous to this 300 barrels of gunpowder had been taken out, 200 more remained; the people belonging to the American veſſel had a train communicating with the powder, which caught, and blew up the veſſel with about 40 of the man of war's men."

An engagement is ſaid to have happened between the Otter ſloop of war and an American privateer off Cape Charles in Maryland, in which the latter was taken after a reſiſtance of near half an hour, though ſhe had but eight guns and 56 men.—The above privateer was fitted out from Rhode Iſland, and commanded by a Yorkſhireman who uſed to trade from Hull to London.

Copy of a letter from Capt. Braithwaite, of the Hampden packet, dated Falmouth, Sept. 20.

"Sept. 5th I received the mail, and ſailed for Liſbon, with the wind to the northward. I received as paſſengers, Mr Scott, Mr Fiſher, and Mr Smith, and, a diſtreſſed ſubject, capt. Thomas Moore, maſter, and five of his people, being the maſter and part of the crew of the Mary and James of Falmouth, bound from London to Salerno, Naples, and Meſſina, but laſt from Falmouth, having ſailed from thence the 20th of Auguſt, with a cargo worth between twenty and thirty thouſand pounds, and was taken the 1ſt inſtant on the coaſt of Portugal, fourteen leagues N. W. from Cape St Vincent's (in ſight of Mount Chigo), by an American privateer, of eight carriage guns, and a number of ſwivels, commanded by Simon Foreſter, an Iriſh man, well known at Liſbon and Falmouth. The privateer was ſloop-rigged, and called the Rover; it being little wind, and rowing with twelve oars, ſhe ſoon came up with capt. Moore. She had taken before ſix ſail on the coaſt, whoſe people they landed at Faro.

"The 22d of Auguſt, a Guinea-man, from Briſtol, John Baker maſter, engaged her, but blew up in the action, and only three men ſaved out of twenty eight. They ſtripped capt. Moore and his people of every thing, and even threatened their lives, and ſent the prize directly for America. The next day, being about eight leagues from Cape Spichell, they gave capt. Moore his boat, in which he reached Setuval that night. The captain of the privateer would not tell what place he belonged to, but ſaid there were 150 ſail of them fitted out at different ports of America. The people told capt. Moore they belonged to Salem, and that ſeveral more had ſailed from thence for the coaſt of Spain and Portugal.

T. P. BRAITHWAITE."
Hampden Packet-boat.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Moore, late commander of the Mary and James, dated from on board the Hampden packet boat, arrived at Falmouth.

"You will be ſurpriſed at hearing from me in this part of the world, the reaſon you will ſee by the proteſt handed to you. I was taken by a privateer called the Rover, a ſloop of eight carriage guns and 14 ſwivels; when ſhe left America ſhe had on board 80 men, but when they took me they had only 38. The captain's name is Simon Foreſter; where ſhe belonged to, I could not learn from them.

"They appeared more like pirates than any thing elſe. They had taken ſix veſſels before mine, but I do not remember any of their names; ſhe had alſo an engagement with a ſnow belonging to Briſtol, capt. Baker, which blew up after fighting ſix hours; only three of the crew were ſaved out of 26, two of whom were landed on the coaſt of Algarve, with three maſters of veſſels and their crews, and the others entered on board the privateers. There were men of different nations on board her; but the certain and major part of the crew were Iriſh."

Copy of a letter from Sir John Hart, his Majeſty's Council-general at Liſbon, to the Right Worſhipful Thomas Farr, Eſq; Mayor of Briſtol.

Liſbon, Sept. 5. 1775.

SIR,

"I think it proper to acquaint you, that a North American privateer ſloop is now cruizing on the coaſts of this kingdom; ſhe has already taken on the 1ſt inſt. at a few leagues N. W. of Cape St Vincent's, the brigantine Mary and James of London, laſt from Falmouth, with a rich cargo, and ſent away the captain with ſix of his men, who landed at Setuval, and bring this account. They learned farther from the privateer's people, that four other American priva-

teers were now at ſea between the Weſtern Iſlands and Portugal; that ſhe had already made five other prizes; and propoſed, with a raſhneſs that will not, I truſt, go unpuniſhed, to try a cruize on the Mediterranean coaſts of Spain.

"I ſend you this advice, to the end you may take the beſt precautions in your power, for the ſecurity of the Britiſh trade within your juriſdiction; and am, Sir, your moſt humble and obedient ſervant,

JOHN HART.

"*P. S.* It appears by an expreſs juſt received from Algarve, that of the veſſels taken, three of them put on ſhore at Algarve prove to be as follows: Gregory Potbury, of the brig Sara Anna, from Exeter, for Gibraltar and Malaga; William Carter, of the ſnow Lively, from Cheſter to Genoa; William Davis, of the brig Good Intent, from Newcaſtle, for Gibraltar. The Guinea veſſel blown up was the Africa of Briſtol, capt. Baker."

A letter from Falmouth, of Sept. 22. ſays, "I have received advice from St Mary's, Scilly, that on the 15th inſt. arrived there, the Peter, Ferguſon, from Tobago, with rum, ſugar, and cotton, for London. She ſailed from thence the 13th of June, has been on the coaſt of Ireland ſmuggling part of the cargo, and has ſold ſome at Scilly. On the officers coming on board to examine the papers, they refuſed to deliver them. Next day the captain ſtabbed himſelf, and died in about ſix hours after; a perſon, ſaid to be the mate, is gone off, and it is ſuppoſed with a large ſum of money, the amount of the goods ſold. The veſſel and the remaining part of the cargo are ſeized by the officers of the cuſtoms, and brought into St Mary's Pier."

This day accounts were received, that the Bee, from the Leeward Iſlands to Lancaſter; the Royal Exchange, Bowden, from Grenada to London; and the Heſter, Crombie, from St Kitt's to London, are taken by the Columbus privateer of 30 guns.

The prizes taken from the Americans by his majeſty's cruizers ſince the late act are computed to amount to the value of 30,000l. but thoſe of Engliſh property taken by the provincial privateers are already known to amount to ſix times that ſum, beſides many ſhips which are miſſing, and it is feared have ſhared the ſame fate.

Yeſterday ſome diſpatches were received at the plantation-office, from Quebec, brought by the Matty, captain Mallet, arrived at Portſmouth from that place.

This morning diſpatches were received at lord George Germaine's office from Quebec, brought over in the Lively, Wetherden, and Britannia, Holme, both which are arrived at Portſmouth.

A letter from Quebec, dated Aug. 23. ſays, "As col. Gordon, of the 29th regiment, who came out in the Lord Howe, and ſince had been made a brigadier-general, was, about three days ago, returning to his own camp, from gen. Fraſer's quarters at Champlain, where he had been to dinner, a few miles off in the path, he was ſhot by ſome Americans, who had croſſed over the lake and waylaid him; he died ſoon after. The fellow that fired, ſeeing the general coming by himſelf, ſaid to his comrade, he would now have a gold watch and a ſilver-hilted ſword; on which they ſtood up in the buſh, and drove two balls through his ſhoulder. Their party was all taken the next day, except the officer, who cannot well eſcape."

On the 16th ult. arrived at Corke, two tranſport ſnows belonging to Whitehaven, the Lonſdale, Grayſon, and the Lord Lewiſham, Hudſon, from New-York, which place they left the 11th of Auguſt; where the Britiſh and foreign troops, amounting by report to 30,000 men, were all ſafe landed at Staten Iſland, where Lord Howe arrived in the Eagle the 27th of July; Sir Peter Parker's ſquadron had all arrived at Staten Iſland, except the Briſtol and Experiment of 50 guns each.—A fleet of 100 ſail arrived with ſoldiers the morning of the day they ſailed. Waſhington had put pitch, tar, and other combuſtibles in every fourth houſe in the city of New-York, in order to burn it in caſe of our troops making good their landing."

Laſt night an expreſs arrived in town from Ireland, with diſpatches from general and lord Howe at New-York, brought over by the Lord Lewiſham, and the Lonſdale, Grayſon, who both ſailed in company the 15th of Auguſt, and by whom we learn that nothing was done, and that no particular time was appointed for an attack, as mentioned in letters of the 12th.

A merchant of this city has received a

letter by one of the tranſports arrived at Corke from New-York, which gives an account that the propoſals lord Howe ſent to the general congreſs, were paid great attention to; and that it was hoped they would be a means of bringing about a reconciliation. That his lordſhip was informed, if, inſtead of ſending thoſe propoſals, he had attacked New-York, they had placed in every part of the city combuſtibles, being determined to reduce it to aſhes, to prevent its falling into their hands.

By a letter from col. Paterſon, aid-de-camp to gen. Howe, to a gentleman in Dublin, it appears that a flag of truce was ſent up to the congreſs by the general, informing them, that he had certain terms and propoſals of accomodation to lay before them. The congreſs returned for anſwer, that "they had a previous queſtion to aſk,—Did theſe propoſals come to America as a free and independent ſtate, or did they not?" Gen. Howe returned his anſwer in the negative.

There is a letter from New-York, which mentions col. Paterſon having had a conference of an hour with gen. Waſhington. When the colonel arrived at the American camp, he found gen. Waſhington in great ſtate, with all his officers about him, and ſurrounded with his guards.

A letter from New-York, which was received yeſterday by an eminent houſe in the city, ſays, "If courage, unanimity, and a good cauſe, deſerve the peculiar attention of Providence, we cannot doubt but the preſent unnatural, and ungrateful rebellion will ſoon determine, and the fomenters thereof receive the due reward of their crimes. The gallant brothers are adored by all degrees of people whoſe principles are uncorrupted. Gen. Clinton has joined them, and, as he alſo is known to be a brave and ſteady loyaliſt, he commands the ſame reſpect. All the forces enjoy perfect health, and ſuch is the univerſal ardour, that they can ſcarcely be prevented from attempting impoſſibilities. The Phœnix, a forty gun ſhip, commanded by capt. Parker, and the Roſe frigate, by capt. Wallace, have ſailed up the river a conſiderable way, and, without the loſs of a ſingle man, have ſilenced ſeveral batteries which the rebels had erected on each ſide thereof. All terms of accommodation have been refuſed and treated with contempt: ſo that if laurels flouriſh, they muſt grow in blood. Farewel!"

A letter from Charles-town, South Carolina, ſays, "Gen. Lee, for his gallant behaviour, in defending this province from the attack of Sir Peter Parker and gen. Clinton, has, by order of the congreſs, as a reward for his merit, been preſented with a ſword valued at 400l.

The attack on the Portugueſe by the provincials, for denying them admiſſion into their ports, it is ſaid, will hurt their cauſe both at the courts of Spain and France.

Orders are gone expreſs to Dublin, for the immediate embarkation of col. Dalrymple's new-raiſed corps for Jamaica.

We hear a corps of engineers and matroſſes will ſpeedily embark for Quebec, to reinforce the garriſon of that city.

The Union armed ſhip is ſailed from Plymouth for Quebec with 60,000 guineas on board.

This morning, cloathing for 15,000 men was ſhipped off at the Tower for America.

Yeſterday the Weſt-India merchants waited on the lords of the admiralty, deſiring a regular convoy might be ſettled; and they were pleaſed to aſſure them, that four ſhips of war ſhould be in the Downs by the 17th of October next, to take under their convoy ſuch ſhips as were ready for ſailing.

Two privateers are fitting out at Deptford, which are to cruize about the Bermuda Iſlands, in order to protect the Weſt India ſhips that may ſail without convoy.

Capt. Thomſon, or (Johnſon), of the Yankee privateer, is at laſt found. By a letter from Dunkirk to a merchant in the city, he was very buſy there buying a veſſel, and had ſeen many, moſt of them large ſhips, and fit for fighting. From whence a report was current among the Engliſh there, that the captain was come over to lay out the 500l. raiſed him by ſubſcription in England as an unfortunate man, on the purchaſe of a veſſel, capable of making his fortune, by picking up a rich Weſt-India, or Leeward Iſland ſhip.

Cove of Corke, Sept. 15. "This morning the following ſhips ſailed from this place, purſuant to expreſs orders received a few days ago, with proviſions for New-York, viz. the Minerva, Coulſon; Vrow, Johanna, Zamack; Indian King, Saunders; Diana, Brown; and Wakinde Barry, Loopey, which are all that have as yet taken in cargoes."

Yeſterday morning as lord North was taking an airing on horſeback in Buſhy-park, he had the misfortune to be flung from his horſe, when his right arm was broke a little above the elbow; a ſurgeon was immediately ſent for to town, and Charles Hawkins, Eſq; of Pall-Mall, ſet out immediately to attend his lordſhip (in the abſence of his father, who is now at Bath), and immediately ſet the bone of his arm, and his lordſhip is in a fair way of recovery.——A great perſonage has viſited his lordſhip three times ſince his misfortune; and expreſſes the utmoſt anxiety for his recovery.

This day his majeſty took the diverſion of ſtag-hunting on Windſor Foreſt, the proper orders being given for that purpoſe yeſterday.

Yeſterday the right hon. Charles Jenkinſon, Eſq; who has for ſome time been in France, and juſt arrived from thence, was at court, and had a conference with his majeſty.

Lord Torphichen is appointed ſecond lieutenant of the 21ſt regiment of foot, commanded by major-gen. Mackay.

By the death of lord Cadogan, no leſs than ſeven poſts or places become vacant, which falls out very luckily for government at this preſent time, as they have ſo many friends to oblige.

It is ſaid a plan will be laid before the houſe at the meeting of parliament, for raiſing a revenue by a tax upon the theatres, the gardens, and all places of public entertainment.

The hereditary prince of Brunſwick, who is now making the tour of Europe, is expected here ſome time in November, but his ſtay will be very ſhort.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 3.

Extract of a letter from Greenock, Oct. 1.

"By a paſſenger in the Neſtor, capt. Harriſon, from the Bay of Honduras, we hear, that the crew of the Lady Juliana, which was taken by the provincials, were put on board one of their own boats, in which they went to the Havannah. They were allowed 6 d. per day, and otherwiſe very well treated by the governor, who ſent out veſſels to protect the Britiſh trade, and beat off the provincials. The Neſtor arrived here after a twelve weeks' paſſage."

By letters from Tobago, received at Edinburgh on Saturday, we learn that the iſland was in a very miſerable ſituation on account of the ſcarcity of proviſions. Several of the negroes had died of fluxes, owing to the unwholeſomeneſs of their food, and many of them were obliged to be ſent into the woods to provide for themſelves.

A letter from an officer at Staten Iſland, to his friend in Edinburgh, ſays, "the rebels have divided their army into three diviſions, which they have encamped at ſome diſtance from each other. In caſe the Britiſh army ſhould get behind the rebel army before New-York, the other diviſions of the provincials are to march down, and thus have the Britiſh army between two fires. It was, however, the general opinion of our officers, that this manœuvre would render the conqueſt of New-York much more eaſy than was expected, as the rebel army there was greatly weakened."

Extract of a letter from Orkney, Sept. 14.

"On Tueſday the 10th current a veſſel named Concordia, of 400 tons burden, Wilhielm Auguſt Brandt maſter, laden with ſalt, coffee, pimento, glaſs, and lead, from Liverpool for Sonderberg in the Baltic, was unluckily forced on a bank of ſtones, grown up in the paſſage between the iſlands Burray and Lamholm, by which accident the veſſel is much bulged. She was immediately carried to Holm-ſound, and laid aground; but it is not yet known how much damage the cargo has received."

Yeſterday ſe'en-night ſailed from Greenock upwards of 100 buſſes for the winter herring bounty-fiſhing.

His majeſty's proclamation is come down, commanding the peers of Scotland to aſſemble at Holyrood-houſe, upon Thurſday the 14th of November next, betwixt the hours of twelve and two, in order to chuſe one of the ſixteen Scots peers, in room of lord Cathcart, deceaſed.

We hear that the earl of Caſſilis is expected to be choſen the peer. And,

We are informed that the marquis of Lothian is to have the vacant green ribbon.

On Tueſday one John Ireland, who calls himſelf a travelling chapman, was apprehended in a houſe in town, much intoxicated with liquor, on ſuſpicion of

being concerned in the ſeveral robberies ſome time ago committed in the neighbourhood of this city. On ſearching him, there were found in his cuſtody ſeveral guineas in gold, and a pair of loaded piſtols. He was yeſterday examined before the ſheriff, when, being unable to give a proper account of himſelf, he was committed to the tolbooth.

On the evening of Tueſday laſt, the day of the election of magiſtrates for this city (a ſuſpenſion, *pro tempore*, of our political conteſts), a kind of frenzy ſeized the populace, who aſſembled in great numbers, and inſiſted on a general illumination, by breaking, without reſerve, the windows of every houſe and ſhop towards the ſtreets wherein candles were not diſplayed. It is impoſſible to ſay from what principle this outrage took its riſe, as both parties, dependents and independents, and many neutrals, ſuffered indiſcriminately; among whom was Sir Laurence Dundas, whoſe elegant and coſtly windows of mirror-glaſs, in his houſe in St Andrew's Square, bore conſpicuous marks of the havock of the night.—As a wiſe piece of policy, the new Lord Provoſt diſcharged the city-guard from interfering, as it might have exaſperated the mob, and endangered the lives of ſome of the inhabitants.

Yeſterday were committed to the tolbooth, by warrant of the magiſtrates, George Guthrie, Robert Currie, William Gayler, and William Beat, or Beatſon, on ſuſpicion of being concerned in breaking windows on Tueſday night in different parts of this city; for the diſcovering the inſtigators of which, the magiſtrates have offered a reward of ten guineas by an advertiſement in the newspapers.

Though the politics of this city have lately undergone much diſcuſſion in Letters, Anſwers, Rejoinders, Libels, Satires, Paſquinades, &c. &c. with which we have no concern; yet we cannot totally overlook that tribute of public applauſe paid by the ſeveral incorporations of this metropolis to our late Lord Provoſt, for his patriotic attempt to vindicate the honour of the magiſtracy, and to ſecure the independence of the trades with regard to the mode of election. As theſe teſtimonies of approbation are too numerous and too long to be wholly inſerted at preſent, we ſhall only give the following as a ſample.

Surgeons-hall, Edin. Sept. 26. 1776.

"THIS day, at a full meeting of the incorporation of ſurgeons, the following minute was unanimouſly agreed to, and ordered to be inſerted in the news-papers.

"The Incorporation of Surgeons being averſe to take any active part in political diſputes, would have remained ſilent; but, when the conduct of their Chief Magiſtrate is attacked with virulence, they think it their duty to declare, that, in their opinion, he has acted in that capacity with *ſpirit*, *uſefulneſs*, and *dignity*. They conſider the regard due to a community ſuperior to any private connection or favour for an individual; and are convinced that his endeavour to fill up the offices of magiſtrates and counſellors with the moſt reſpectable of his fellow-citizens, muſt tend to promote the honour and intereſt of the city, and merits their warmeſt approbation.—Extracted from the minutes of the incorporation by, (Signed)

WILL. BALDERSTONE, *Clk.*"

Mary's Chapel, Edin. Sept. 28. 1776.

"THE united Incorporations of Mary's Chapel, *to wit*, the Wrights, Maſons, Glaziers, Painters, Slaters, Plumbers, Coopers, &c. think themſelves called upon at this juncture publicly to declare, That their Chief Magiſtrate, by his conſtant and uniform attention to the honour and intereſt of the community at large, and the incorporations in particular, deſerves the moſt grateful acknowledgments, and the warmeſt approbation of his fellow-citizens.

"They are much concerned at ſeeing him ſo baſely attacked for preferring the intereſts of the community to that of any individual whatever; and they are ſorry to ſee that the intereſt of any one man ſhould ſwallow up every other conſideration. His liberal plan of freeing the incorporations from the odious reſtriction of having their leets ſhortened in council, is worthy of our higheſt praiſe, and, if carried into execution, would tend much to the honour and intereſt of the whole community, and in which we hope for the concurrence of the other incorporations.

"His concern for every thing tending to promote the ornament and police of

the city, particularly his attention and activity in carrying on the weſt-road to Leith by a voluntary contribution, in place of adopting the mode firſt propoſed of a toll, which muſt have proved very burdenſome to the whole community, and to this incorporation in particular, deſerves the thanks of every well-wiſher to this metropolis.—Extracted by,

ALEX. CUNNINGHAM, Clk. P. T."

Goldſmiths-hall, Edin. Sept. 30. 1776.

"THE Incorporation of Goldſmiths of the city of Edinburgh, being duly aſſembled, and taking into their conſideration, that, in the late political conteſt in ſaid city, ſome attempts have been made to miſrepreſent the conduct of the right hon. the Lord Provoſt, they conſider it to be their duty unanimouſly to declare, in this public manner, their intire approbation of his Lordſhip's conduct as Chief Magiſtrate of this city: That, in that character, he has acted upon honourable and liberal principles: That he has ſtudied to promote the honour and proſperity of the community, and has proved himſelf ſincerely diſpoſed, along with the other members of council who adhered to him, to maintain the independence and the freedom, both of the merchants and trades of this city, in matters of election; particularly by agreeing to apply for an alteration of that unconſtitutional uſage, by which the town-council have of late years exerciſed a power of ſhortening the leets of the incorporations: And they reſolve and agree to join the other incorporations of this city in concerting proper meaſures for putting an end to the above grievance of ſhortening their leets, and thereby eſtabliſhing a free and conſtitutional mode of election among the trades of this city. —Extracted from the minutes of the incorporation by,

SAM. MITCHELSON, jun. Clk."

Edinburgh, Sept. 30. 1776.

"WHICH day the Incorporation of Bakers in Edinburgh being duly aſſembled, and having taken under their conſideration the ſpirited behaviour of Mr Stodart, the preſent Lord Provoſt, and the other worthy members of the town-council, who concurred with him in endeavouring to vindicate the independence of the city and trades from the improper influence of a few, chearfully embrace this opportunity of teſtifying their warmeſt approbation of the conduct of the Lord Provoſt, and the gentlemen who adhered to him, for their laudable attempt to introduce reſpectable and independent citizens into the magiſtracy, and to aſſert the right of the incorporations in ſending their own repreſentatives into council, unreſtrained by the power now veſted in the council of ſhortening their leets, which deprives the incorporations of the ineſtimable privilege of being repreſented by the man of their choice. The corporation hope that their worthy Chief Magiſtrate, and the gentlemen concurring with him, will with vigour perſiſt, till they free the trades from a practice ſo ſubverſive of liberty, and ſo incompatible with the right of election; and they may reſt aſſured, that the corporation will, to their utmoſt, ſupport them, while they ſtedfaſtly adhere to meaſures ſo generous and independent. —Extracted by,

WILLIAM ANDERSON, Clk."

But, of all the tokens of approbation with which his Lordſhip's conduct has been diſtinguiſhed by his fellow-citizens, none reflect more honour than the following teſtimony of the higheſt reſpect and eſteem conferred on him by a private literary ſociety, in a Diploma elegantly wrote on vellum, and preſented to him on the 1ſt inſt. with a ſilver medal appended.

Edinburgh, Sept. 28. 1776.

"THE MEMBERS of the PANTHEON, as a teſtimony of the high ſenſe they entertain of the many private and patriotic virtues of the Right Hon. JAMES STODART, Eſq; Lord Provoſt of the city of Edinburgh, whoſe vigorous efforts to render that metropolis free and independent will long be moſt gratefully remembered, have admitted, and hereby do admit him an *honorary member* of the PANTHEON; a ſociety inſtituted and ſupported upon thoſe principles of freedom and independence which his Lordſhip has always ſo ſtrenuouſly maintained."

[AS we have taken no concern in the late political buſtle in this metropolis, we would not willingly miſrepreſent the conduct or character of any man, or ſociety of men, who have been engaged in it. The paragraph reſpecting deacon Sommers, &c. P. 32. was ſent us by a worthy member of Mary's

Chapel, who was preſent at that meeting, and which we inſerted literally. In order, however, to wipe off all ſuſpicion of partiality, we have given the following part of the minute ſent us, ſo far as regards Mr Sommers.

Mary's Chapel, Sept. 21. 1776.

"IT was repreſented that the intention of the meeting was to take under conſideration the conduct of Thomas Sommers, the newly elected deacon of the Maſons, and the following motion being made, viz. That Mr David Ramſay, their late deacon, be præſes this day, and continue præſes during the incorporation's pleaſure: And alſo that they ſhould agree to receive any application or repreſentation that may be made to them by Mr Thomas Sommers, relating to his conduct in council in not ſupporting Provoſt Stodart and Deacon Francis Brodie (now convener), and will conſider thereof.—Before proceeding to ſtate the vote upon this motion, deacon William Butter proteſted againſt the ſame, and againſt any ſtep being taken againſt deacon Sommers, till he had an opportunity of being heard in his own vindication; to which proteſt deacon William Jamieſon adhered: and the vote being called, it carried by a great majority to agree to ſaid motion.

Extracted by, W. A. Clk."

DEATHS.

Sept. 4. At Stockholm, Mr de Viſme, his Britannic majeſty's envoy-extraordinary at the court of Sweden.

18. At New Tarbet houſe, Mrs Jane M'Kenzie, wife of Doctor Alexander M Kenzie phyſician in Roſs, and daughter of the hon. col. Alexander M Kenzie, late of Cromarty.

19. At Glaſgow, Mr Alexander Parlane, ſurgeon there.

21. At Rocheſter, Mrs Murray, wife of Mr Murray bookſeller in Fleet-ſtreet.

23. At Lochlane, Dame Anne Gordon, relict of Sir Henry Stirling of Ardoch, Eſq;

23. At Paiſley, Mr Hugh Ker, ſheriff-ſubſtitute of Renfrew-ſhire.

25. At London, Charles lord Cadogan, aged 92. His lordſhip was colonel of the 2d troop of horſe guards, governor of Graveſend and Tilbury forts, a general of his majeſty's forces, truſtee of the Britiſh Muſeum, and F. R. S. His title and eſtates devolve to his only ſon the hon. Charles Sloane Cadogan, now lord Cadogan.

25. At Dalguiſe, Perthſhire, John Stuart of Dalguiſe, Eſq;

26. At the houſe of her brother Mr Oliphant of Charing-croſs, London, Mrs Ferguſon, widow of William Ferguſon, Eſq; of Duncholm, Air-ſhire.

26. At Edinburgh, aged 96, Mrs Iſabel Seton, daughter of the deceaſed Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, Bart. one of the ſenators of the college of juſtice.

29. At ditto, lady Whitefoord, widow of the deceaſed gen. Sir John Whitefoord, of Whitefoord Bart.

CIVIL PROMOTIONS.

The MAGISTRATES *and* TOWN-COUNCIL *of* Edinburgh.

The Right Hon. ALEXANDER KINCAID, Eſq; Lord Provoſt.

Walter Hamilton, Eſq.
James Stirling, Eſq.
William Thomſon, Eſq.
Archibald Macdowall, Eſq. } Bailies.

Charles Innes, Eſq. Dean of Guild.

John Meſſman, Eſq. Treaſurer, re-elected.

James Stodart, Eſq. Old Provoſt.

John Walker, Eſq.
John Grieve Eſq
John Wordie, Eſq.
Alexander Eſplin, Eſq. } Old Bailies.

John Kid, Eſq. Old Dean of Guild.

Old Treaſurer, and College Treaſurer.

Meſſrs James Hotchkis,
Alexander Maxwell,
William Galloway, } Merchant Counſellors.

Orlando Hart,
Benjamin Yule, } Trades Counſellors.

Norman Macpherſon,
Thomas Sommers,
Angus Macpherſon,
William Crawford,
James Clark,
Thomas Millar, } Council Deacons.

Francis Brodie, Convener,
Alexander Hamilton,
Adam Davie,
Alexander Ritchie,
James Millar,
Alexander Wilſon,
William Thom,
Robert Wight, } Extraordinary Council Deacons.

John Wordie, Eſq. Admiral of Leith.

John Grieve, Eſq. Baron Bailie of Canongate and Calton.

Alexander Eſplin, Eſq. Baron Bailie of Portſburgh and Potter-row.

Mr James Hotchkis, Captain of Orange Colours.

To our CORRESPONDENTS.

The obſervations of ALEXIS are under conſideration.

The TOBACCONISTS are not unſuitable to the times, though ſome of both their *ſhag* and *pigtail* appears to be but of an indifferent quality; we have not however had time to examine the cargo minutely.

X. Y. and A. M. ſhall be reviſed.